The Middlebury Campus

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Faculty: Bring the Books Back

By ENGLISH AND AMERICAN LITERATURES DEPARTMENT

Dear President Patton, Dean Lloyd, Provost Cason, and Executive Vice President Provost:

We, the undersigned, write to request that the college restore the book ordering function to the campus store in order to ensure timely and reliable supply of the books that are necessary for classes in the first weeks of the semester and beyond. The current system has had a significant negative pedagogical impact for the following reasons:

• Students do not (and will not, going forward) purchase books through the online system in advance because they are not sure about their schedules and, not unreasonably, don't want to spend large sums on books they might not need. We have now had two semesters to test out this system, and the record is clear that students have not changed their purchasing patterns.

• This situation is exacerbated by the demands of the drop/add period. Students who shift classes during this period have even more difficulty catching up and getting the appropriate books than regularly enrolled students.

• There are significant delays in ordering books through the MBS system—up to two or even three weeks. Under the current system, students have no way to get immediate access to the books for reading assignments required during the early weeks of the semester.

• Trying to reduce delivery delay costs our students extortionate amounts in shipping costs. This problem obviously disproportionately affects lower income students.

• Because of these delays, students do not have the books when they begin class, causing faculty to scramble to introduce their courses and move through their syllabi with students who don't yet have access to books.

• When students do finally locate books from various sources, they are often not the editions the professor ordered. This makes class discussion difficult, and again compromises the students' access to the selected material.

• Professors are spending valuable time during the early weeks of the semester photocopying materials and trying in other ways to help increasingly anxious students chase down books; the process wastes both faculty

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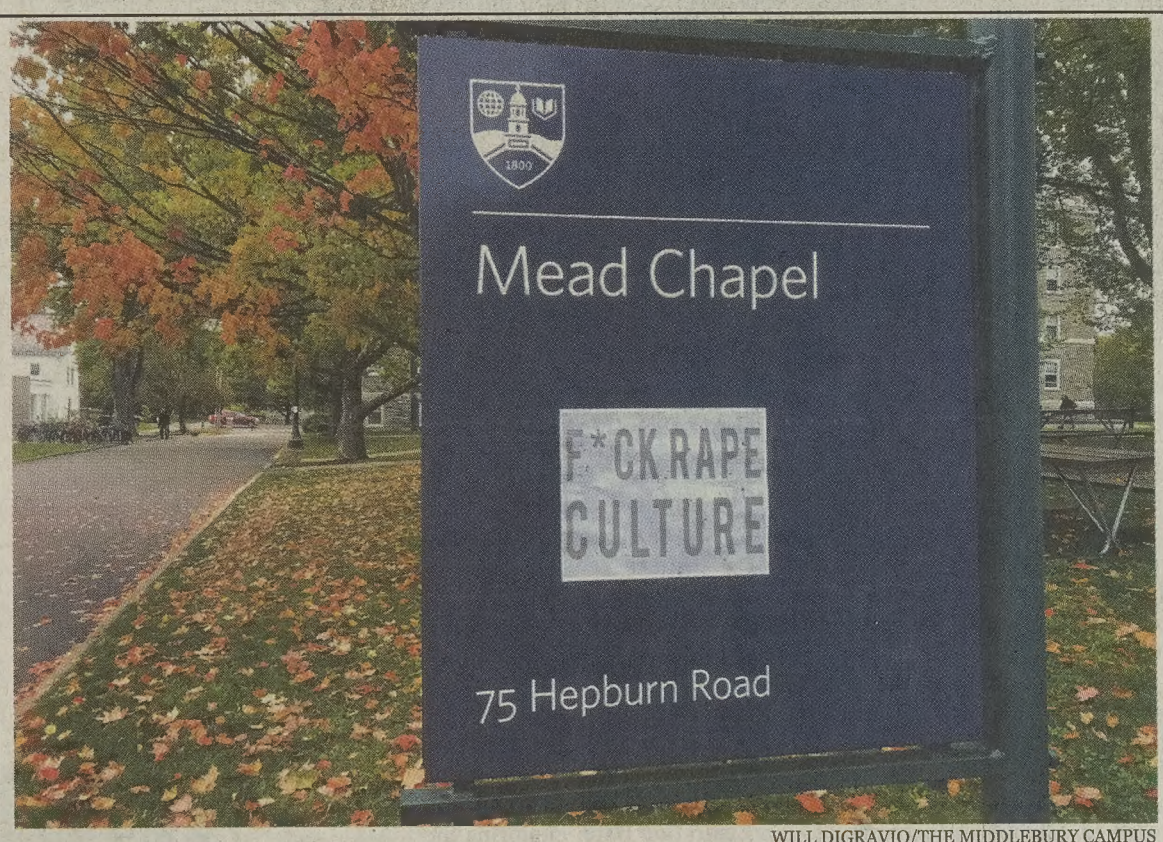

WILL DIGRAVIO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

One of many posters supporting survivors was placed on the Mead Chapel sign and read "F*CK RAPE CULTURE." Below, students made signs and joined faculty at the "Walkout Against Patriarchy" outside of Proctor.

Demonstrations Continue as Kavanaugh Takes Seat as Nation's 114th Supreme Court Justice

By BOCHU DING, CAROLINE KAPP and ERIC KAPNER
News Editors and Senior Writer

The hearings and subsequent confirmation of now-U.S. Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh sparked national outrage that resonated with many members of the college community over the past two weeks. Across campus, students and faculty publicly expressed their support for Dr. Christine Blasey Ford and survivors of sexual assault with signs, a "Walkout Against the Patriarchy" and chalked messages on pathways.

SIGNS SUPPORTING SURVIVORS

"WE BELIEVE SURVIVORS," declared signs that surfaced across campus after the tumultuous Senate hearing addressing Dr. Ford's sexual assault allegations against Justice Kavanaugh. The lead organizer of the postering campaign, who requested anonymity given her probation status from the Charles Murray protest, printed several posters and emailed the PDF file of the posters to multiple co-activists including Grace Vedock '20 and Taite Shomo '20.5.

"I wanted to do something to help make women and survivors feel supported on this campus. To help them feel heard. Believed. Safe. They were my motivation," the student wrote in a message. "Beyond campus, my sisters were my motivation. My mom. My friends. My future nieces."

However, responses have not all been positive. Certain signs, such as one posted outside of Proctor Dining Hall, were almost immediately ripped down. Throughout the next few days, additional signs were vandalized and restored. Soon after the initial incident, the Community Bias Response Team (CBRT) weighed in, condemning the vandalism in an all-school email and noting that it violated "the general principle of respectful behavior and community standards."

A similar action took place outside the suite of Juliana Dunn '19.5, Vee Duong '19 and Nathan Nguyen '19. In a Facebook post, Dunn shared that a student continued to erase the "WE BELIEVE CHRISTINE" text on the whiteboard outside their suite and remove similar paper signs. As of Tuesday evening, the messages had been collectively vandalized nine times.

"As a suite we are unsurprised but still stung by the ripping down and erasing of our signs of solidarity; it felt particularly painful to those of us who are survivors," the suite members collectively wrote in a message to The Campus. "Supporting survivors should be the norm, not a radical act. We want to expect more of our peers and the institution, but our experiences on campus have largely taught us to prepare for less."

The primary organizer of the poster campaign also wrote "BELIEVE SURVIVORS" on the chalk message board next to the mail room, including the hotline for WomenSafe (800-388-4205). Throughout the twenty-minute setup process, dozens of women stopped to express their gratitude and identify themselves as survivors.

PROTEST AGAINST PATRIARCHY

A "Walkout Against the Patriarchy" started small but grew to a crowd of about 40 professors and students outside of Proctor on Oct. 4. Partici-

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MAIL CENTER ON TRACK TO BEAT PACKAGE RECORD

By LUCY GRINDON
Senior Writer

Mail center employees processed almost 4,000 more packages this September than they processed in September 2017.

The number of packages that the mail center receives has grown steadily over the past decade. Yearly totals were in the fifty-thousands from 2009 to 2012, and then increased in 2013 to approximately 70,000 packages — a 24 percent jump. Between 2014 and 2017, totals climbed from about 80,000 to roughly 89,000. If this September is any indication, the 2018 annual total will easily surpass 90,000 packages.

Many Middlebury students, including some student mail center employees, attribute this semester's surge in packages to the bookstore's decision to contract with online bookseller MBS Direct instead of selling books in the physical store.

Jacki Galenkamp, the mail center supervisor, agreed that the influx of packages this September was partially due to an increased number of online book orders.

"We were getting quite a few books that were meant for the bookstore," she said. All United States Postal Service (USPS) shipments arrive at the mail center, Galenkamp explained, and since most books ordered after the start of the school year were sent through USPS, the mail center bore the brunt of the work.

"We processed them for about two

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LUCY GRINDON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

This year is a record-breaking one for the college mail center.

PROFESSOR'S DEBUT FILM SCREENED WORLDWIDE

By YVETTE SHI
Arts & Academics Editor

"A little irresponsible" is how Film and Media Culture Professor Ioana Uricaru describes her decision to move to the U.S. in 2001 to study film and television production at the University of Southern California. She did not have any friends or family in the U.S., and naively she thought the university would provide housing for her. Moreover, she did not have the money to pay for the expensive program.

Luckily, she found a room to rent online while she was still in Romania, her home country. She became friends with the landlady Tracey, who picked her up at the airport three days before school started, and stayed with her for a couple of years.

During her first year in Los Angeles, Uricaru sometimes found herself in a far from ideal situation. At some point, Tracey told her that she had to make lemonade, because "when life gives you lemons, make lemonade."

That is where the name of Uricaru's debut feature film comes from. "Lemonade" centers on Mara, a 30 year-old Romanian immigrant and single mother working on a temporary visa in the U.S. who marries an American man. When she applies for a green card, things start to become difficult, and she is forced to confront various obstacles.

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VOTER REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION DEADLINES
New Hampshire
■ = Oct. 24
Rhode Island
▲ = Oct. 16
Delaware
■ = Oct. 13
▲ = Nov. 5
West Virginia
■ = Oct. 16
▲ = Oct. 31
Virginia
■ = Oct. 15
▲ = Oct. 30
North Carolina
■ = Oct. 12
▲ = Oct. 30
South Carolina
■ = Oct. 17
▲ = Nov. 2
■ = Oct. 30 ▲ = N/A
■ = Oct. 16 ▲ = Nov. 1
■ = Oct. 17 ▲ = Nov. 1
■ = Oct. 17 ▲ = Nov. 5
▲ = Nov. 1
■ = N/A ▲ = Nov. 5
■ = N/A ▲ = Nov. 3
■ = Oct. 12 ▲ = Oct. 30
■ = Oct. 16 ▲ = N/A
■ = Oct. 12 ▲ = Oct. 26
■ = Oct. 22 ▲ = Nov. 5
■ = Oct. 22 ▲ = Nov. 5
▲ = Nov. 03
■ = Oct. 16 ▲ = Oct. 30
■ = Oct. 19 ▲ = Oct. 26
■ = Oct. 27 ▲ = Oct. 26
▲ = Oct. 30
▲ = Oct. 29
▲ = Nov. 03
■ = Oct. 30
▲ = Oct. 30
■ = N/A ▲ = Oct. 30
■ = Oct. 16 ▲ = Oct. 30
▲ = Nov. 3
▲ = Oct. 30
▲ = Oct. 26
▲ = Nov. 02
■ = Oct. 12 ▲ = Oct. 31
▲ = Oct. 30
■ = Oct. 16 ▲ = Oct. 30
■ = Oct. 22 ▲ = Oct. 30
▲ = Oct. 26
▲ = Nov. 12
■ = Oct. 17 ▲ = Nov. 5
■ = Oct. 17 ▲ = Nov. 5
▲ = Nov. 2
▲ = Oct. 31
KEY
■ Voter Registration Deadline
▲ Absentee Ballot Application Deadline

Hey you. Check out this nifty map we made. If a date isn't listed, or there's an X, that means you're too late. If not, then go vote!

Check out our special "Election Issue" on Nov. 1. We will bring you VT election coverage, op-eds, interviews and more!

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TALK CANCELED AFTER ACTIVIST AWARDED NOBEL PRIZE

By NORA PEACHIN
Contributing Writer

Nadia Murad's talk at Middlebury was canceled last week after the Iraqi Yazidi human rights activist won the Nobel Peace Prize. Murad was honored for her activism against human trafficking and her efforts to end use of rape as a weapon of war. President Laurie L. Patton announced the cancellation in an all-school email, writing, "This is by far the best cancelation notice I have ever had to write."

Murad was captured at the age of 21 by Islamic State (IS) militants in her village of Kocho in 2014. The militants executed much of her family and most of the men and older women who would not convert to Islam. While they were buried them in mass graves, many of the young women, including Murad, were kidnapped and sold into sexual slavery.

She became a part of the Islamic State's (IS) sex slave trade among many other Yazidi women. While the militant who had taken Murad tried to force her to convert to Islam, she refused. He also tried to force her hand in marriage. During this time she was raped and tortured daily.

After three months, she escaped after being sold to a jihadist in Mosul. She fled to Kurdistan by posing as the wife of a Sunni man. Despite wanting to return home, she could not because the Islamic State still controlled her village. She instead emigrated to Germany, where she lives today.

Murad is now a human rights activist. She shares her intensely painful and personal story to raise awareness for her cause.

Murad spoke at the United Nations Security Council in 2017 and successfully convinced them to approve an investigation into the war crimes committed by IS against the Yazidi people.

Earlier this year, Murad published a memoir titled "The Last Girl: My Story of Captivity, and My Fight Against the Islamic State."

Murad also founded the nonprofit Nadia's Initiative. Through the organization, Murad lobbies states and institutions to recognize the Yazidi genocide and works to establish programming in the Sinjar region of Iraq, the ancient homeland of the Yazidi minority.

The Nobel Peace Prize winners were announced early Friday morning. Murad shares the prize with Denis Mukwege, a Congolese gynecologist who has treated tens of thousands of victims of sexual violence.

History Professor Febe Armanios, who was scheduled to introduce Murad, was pleased by the news of her Nobel recognition.

"Nadia's story is full of pain but also of hope that such horrors would never be repeated," Armanios said. "Time and again, over the last few years, she's taken to the microphone to share her experiences on the global stage and has called on the international community to bring to justice those who've perpetrated violence against women and minorities. It is quite heartening to see that the Nobel Peace Prize Committee has recognized her advocacy and tireless efforts."

Originally scheduled to occur later that evening, the talk was part of the Critical Conversations series and was titled "Hope Has an Expiration Date: Exploring the Plight of Victims of Ethnic and Religious Violence in the Middle East."

Protest cont.

Continued from Page 1

pants gathered in front of the steps to the dining hall with signs protesting Justice Kavanaugh's nomination and many passersby joined in after seeing what was occurring.

The mood was somber. Participants expressed their frustration at the Republican Party's continued support of Justice Kavanaugh despite the accusations of sexual assault, and shared their belief that recent events put women across the nation at risk. Many said they were afraid that Justice Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court would threaten the right to abortion protected by Roe v. Wade.

Participants also discussed concrete ways to make a difference, such as voting and talking about uncomfortable issues with family members and friends. Some suggested that to create change, they would need to look outside of the "Middlebury bubble" and engage with the world at large.

The professors in attendance hoped that their students and their students' generation as a whole would work hard to protect sexual assault survivors and improve the lives of all women.

Gender Studies professors Laurie Essig and Sujata Moorti, Writing and Rhetoric professor Catharine Wright and Director of Chellis House Karin Hanta arranged the event with help from other faculty members.

"It was last minute," Essig said. "We got some posters up and put it on Facebook on Wednesday, the day before."

"I just happened to stumble upon the protest on my way home and stayed a bit to hear people's thoughts and responses to the situation," Melisa Topic '19 said. "I appreciated the mixed student-faculty attendance because I believe it showed both unity and support from all sources on this campus, and demonstrated the diversity in individuals that are feeling some type of way about the Kavanaugh nomination."

The next day, Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM) and the Student Government Association (SGA) encouraged students to participate in a "blackout" by wearing black to show support for survivors of sexual assault and for Dr. Ford, Ramirez and Swetnick.

On Saturday, the Senate voted 50-48 to confirm Justice Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court. He was sworn in later that day.

CHALK IN SOLIDARITY

Using a rainbow of chalk, students scrawled messages of frustration, despair and support in response to Kavanaugh's confirmation. Some of the messages were longer: "Men Need to Hold Other Men Accountable" and "Age Does Not Excuse Assault," while others were simple and impactful: "Believe Survivors" and "We Believe Dr. Ford."

The chalking was organized by Taite Shomo '20.5 and executed on Monday and Tuesday.

"I happen to believe those allegations, but his appointment to the Court is much larger than just him. It's a symbolic message to survivors of sexual assault and abuse that our experiences don't matter," Shomo said.

"I was assaulted when I was 13, only a little younger than Dr. Ford when she was assaulted," she said. "The idea that a person can inflict something so painful and traumatizing on another person with no consequences is devastating."

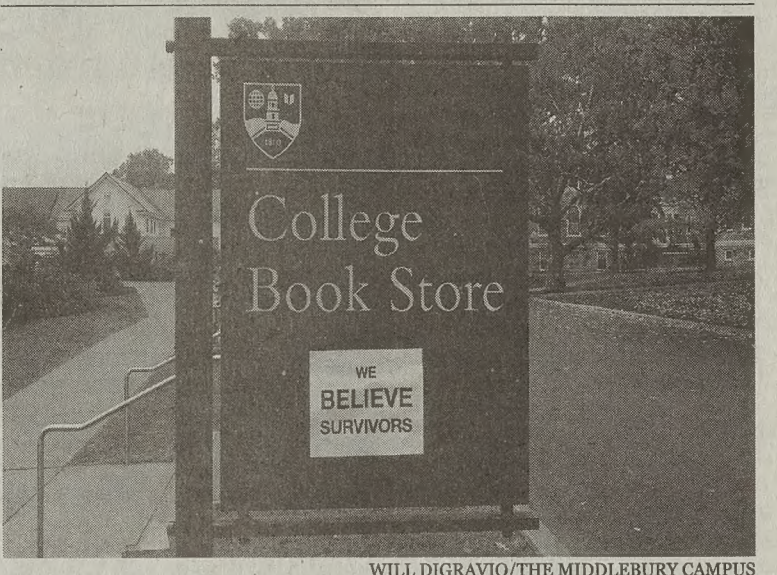
Shomo wonders if she, or other survivors at Middlebury, may someday have to experience what Dr. Ford has gone through, and if they do, whether their story will even matter.

"Chalking campus felt like a cathartic and immediate way to channel some of the anger and sadness I've been feeling since Kavanaugh's appointment in a constructive way" she said.

The purpose of the chalking was not only personal expression. Shomo also hoped to send a message to both survivors and assaulters on campus.

"There are people here who care about what survivors have been through and care about assaulters being held accountable for their actions — even if those actions took place in high school or college," Shomo said.

Shomo described one moment



WILL DIGRAVIO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
One of the signs supporting survivors was placed outside of the bookstore.

FAM Launches Website to Increase Awareness of Sexual Health Services

By KATE CRISCITIELLO
Senior Writer

Members of Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM) have built a website in an effort to make sexual health resources more accessible, transparent and easier to navigate for students by directing them to available services at Parton Health Center, Porter Hospital and the Planned Parenthood in Middlebury.

Information on abortions, sexually transmitted infections (STI) testing, contraceptives, pregnancy, pleasure, sexual assault, consent, menstruation and mental health are all featured on the site.

Five FAM members lead the website project: Annie Blalock '20.5, Matt Martignoni '21.5, Olivia Pruett '21.5, Michael Frank '20.5 and Emma Bernstein '21.5. Frank and Bernstein act as data managers.

The project is supported by Planned Parenthood, which selected FAM to participate in their Campus Campaign Program. The program provides students at colleges nationwide with the funding and training necessary to develop a campaign focused on an issue regarding sexual or reproductive justice.

FAM held a Planned Parenthood Action Forum last March, where they invited students, faculty and staff to discuss their experiences with sexual health issues at Middlebury. Pruett said the decision to focus FAM's campaign on a sexual health website was inspired by experiences students shared at the forum.

"A lot of our ideas came from people telling personal stories on campus trying to access birth control or had questions about it," Pruett said. "Or people who needed an abortion or maybe they didn't need one, or needed information for a friend and didn't know where to turn. We are pretty educated and a lot of us had decent sex education, and so we know these resources should be available to us, but we had no idea who to ask."

Julia Sinton '20.5, one of FAM's co-presidents and another contributor to the project, left the forum with a similar impression.

"A lot of the students who came were first years and some of them were talking about how coming to Middlebury can be such an overwhelming experience," she said. "Having more access and more information on sexual health issues would be a turning point for a lot of them."

This summer, the group of five FAM members attended one of Planned Parenthood's training programs in Detroit, where they planned and strategized for their campaign.

Blalock, FAM's other co-president, emphasized that the website campaign not only concentrates on Parton. It also focuses on off-campus services that students use at Porter Hospital and the Planned Parenthood in Middlebury.

Planned Parenthood and FAM want to ensure that the website is an intersectional resource.

"We wanted to make sure that our campaign is something that could help all people on campus, not just white, cisgender women," Bernstein said.

To meet this goal, FAM will work with different student groups on campus and with the Student Government Association (SGA) Sexual Relationship and Respect Committee.

According to Blalock, FAM hopes to collaborate with Parton so that both groups can work together to make this resource as useful and effective as possible. The online resource will be constantly changing. Blalock said that FAM welcomes input from the administration and professionals.

"The college should be held responsible for keeping sexual and reproductive health resources accessible to us as students," she said.

While he hadn't yet heard about FAM's campaign, Parton's Executive Director Gus Jordan said that the health center's staff would gladly help.

"Sounds great that FAM is doing this, but I'm not familiar with their efforts," Jordan said. "We'd be happy to work with them."

Visit the website at: hartrymartignoni.wixsite.com/middsexualhealth

Go links: go/ineedmorecondomns, go/sexysources, go/whatdoIdo and go/sexplease

COURTESY PHOTO
The FAM members leading the website project attended a Planned Parenthood training session in Detroit over the summer.

Busiest September Yet at Mail Center

Continued from Page 1

weeks maximum and then I ended up calling the post office and having them sort out what was addressed to 58 Hepburn, the bookstore's address," Galenkamp said.

But Galenkamp does not believe the bookstore is solely responsible.

"I can't say with any kind of certainty say how much the bookstore affected us," she said. "It definitely did affect the number, but I don't know how much."

All MBS Direct packages were delivered by USPS, and USPS packages accounted for only about 40 percent of this September's 4,000-package increase. Because the bookstore no longer sells physical books on campus, students have started buying nearly all of their books online, whether from MBS Direct, Amazon or other sites.

"People order from ThriftBooks, Book Depository, Amazon rentals. There are so many companies," said Nicole Duquette, one of the mail center's two full-time mail clerks.

"The transition from a physical bookstore to the online bookstore just means that everyone and their mother's uncle is trying to get their books from the mail center," joked Rachael Salerno '18.5, a mail center employee.

The surge of packages made the last month a challenging time for mail center employees.

"During September we were working seven days a week, we were staying late, we never closed the window until the last person was helped," Galenkamp said. "And then after we closed we would stay for an hour, two hours, as late as our personal lives would allow."

According to Galenkamp, employees were so swamped on some nights that they were unable to process everything despite staying late after work.

"It was really hard for us to walk out the doors without having finished everything, and we would come in early the next day. That was a little bit of a struggle."

The number of packages also made it harder for employees to find specific items during peak pickup times between regular morning classes.

"We don't want it to be a long and arduous process for students, but with the number of packages that are there all the time, it's been increasingly difficult to find the number of packages right away," said Mattea Preece '19, another student employee.

"It's really hard because you're trying to keep the students as happy as possible. Obviously you want to find each package, but sometimes you have to disappoint one student," Preece said.

For the most part, students were patient during the September package rush.

"Students went out of their way to thank us and we really appreciate that," Galenkamp said. "We worked non-stop, leaving at the end of the day and working weekends, and students were really understanding."

"The good times definitely outweigh those bad and awkward encounters that you have," Preece said. "I just think a lot of students aren't used to having to wait for their packages. I have had a few students be rude to me, and I've heard stories from other employees as well, but I understand why people are frustrated."

Students can help the mail center function quickly and efficiently by respecting the center's policies.

"One of the biggest things that students can do is not come down until they get an email from the mail center saying that their package has arrived," Galenkamp said. "It wastes their time because they're waiting in line, it wastes our time because we have to stop processing in order to tell them that their package hasn't been processed yet."

Galenkamp said it could be helpful for professors to consider switching to e-books, and employees have ideas for ways to redesign the mail center to maximize efficiency.

"It would probably speed up the lines so much more if we had an extra window or if they just expanded the counter space. Then we could all be working together to make sure that we got the lines cut down," Preece said.

Galenkamp's ideal mail center would be bigger and able to accommodate oversized items with a larger window. However, she is unsure if it would be cost-effective to renovate the center only to cope with the three busiest weeks each year.

"If you could convince the town to put in a Target, that would help us a lot," Galenkamp laughed.

SECURITY REPORT REVEALS INCREASE IN SOME REPORTED CRIMES

By ARIADNE WILL
Contributing Writer

The crime statistics released in the college's annual security and fire safety report reveals a sharp increase in incidences of rape, stalking and dating violence and a continued decline in discipline for liquor law violations compared to last year's numbers.

The latest report, which was released on Oct. 1, covers incidents at the college campus, Bread Loaf and the Middlebury Language Schools. The report cannot tally crimes that go unreported and therefore does not represent the total number of crimes committed on campus.

The report includes statistics from the past three years. Looking specifically at the college campus and its immediate vicinity, the fluctuations in several of these crime categories are as follows.

There has been a steady decline in disciplinary referrals issued for liquor law violations. The number fell from 356 referrals in 2015 to 316 in 2016 and 233 in 2017. Reports of aggravated assault also declined from one in 2015 and 2016 to zero in 2017.

Reported rapes rose to 19 in 2017 from eight in 2016. The eight in 2016 marked a significant drop from from 21 in 2015.

Increases in reported crimes have occurred in several categories. In 2017 two hate crimes were reported, while in 2015 and 2016 there were zero reports. Reports of dating violence have risen from five in 2015 to 11 in 2017. Reports of stalking have increased from four in 2015 to 11 in 2017. Reports of fondling have increased from one in 2015 to six in 2017.

There was one report of arson in 2015, zero in 2016 and one in 2017.

The 129-page document also includes contact information for emergency situations, on-campus resources and health and advocacy services, including the student-led organization MiddSafe, which provides a 24-hour hotline run by student advocates.

Acting as a resource manual for students, the report also details procedures that can guide students through difficult situations. It includes policies, procedures, safety practices and fire systems at the college's campus.

"I think it's important to have these resources handy because we have a bigger sense of security," Mariana Zamorano '22 said.

"You never know when you're going to be faced with certain situations," Max Rye '20 added. "It definitely doesn't hurt to have access to these resources."

Statistics provided in the reports are collected by the Middlebury College Department of Public Safety in accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. The Clery Act, passed into law in 1990, requires that all colleges and universities receiving federal funding share information about crime on campus.

Tri-Town Bike Loop Proposal Gets Community Support

By PORTER BOWMAN
Contributing Writer

MIDDLEBURY — The towns of Middlebury, Bristol and Vergennes have taken a major step this week towards improving the safety and accessibility of cycling paths in Addison County. The three towns submitted a joint proposal for a Municipal Planning Grant for a new tri-town bike loop through the Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) in Middlebury. The Triangle Bike Loop would cover 32 miles of existing back roads to the east and west of Route 7, the major roadway connecting Middlebury and Vergennes.

According to the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the agency in charge of the Municipal Planning Grant, the project will be considered for up to $15,000 to "fund technical assistance for municipal planning/zoning activities." The proposal seeks to allow for dedicated routes that prioritize safety for cyclists who wish to travel around Addison County.

Student cyclist Beckett Nasvik '21.5 remarked that riding to Vergennes is one of his favorite routes, and the new loop will "only enhance the cycling experience in this area for both Middlebury students and local road bikers alike."

Last spring, several Middlebury students created a proposed route in a senior seminar in environmental studies, and Katie Aman '19, president of the Middlebury Cycling Club, was given the chance to test out the route. Aman was thrilled to hear the progress made on the tri-town proposal, especially for protecting cyclists.

"I think this project is fantastic, because bicycling safety can always be improved. We're lucky in Vermont to have many beautiful roads that are lightly trafficked and often cars pass responsibly," Aman said. "But we still have main roads such as route 116, 7, 17, 22A, 74 and others that pose significant risks because they either lack large shoulders and/or many cars are going by at fast speeds."

Over the last several years, creating safer conditions for Addison County cyclists became a major priority, leading to the Vermont Agency of Transportation creating an On-Road Bicycle Plan to make roads safer and address the concerns of cyclists across the state.

Aman also highlighted the need to educate Vermont drivers on sharing the road with bikes.

"Even where traffic is lower, some drivers do not follow proper protocol in passing. It would be awesome to see better or more clear signage on these roads to clearly alert motor vehicle drivers of cycling traffic and the rules they must abide by when passing," Aman said.

Signage has already seen success on some routes and has been discussed as a potential addition to the tri-town loop. The signs would inform drivers about the loop's existence and force them to exercise caution on the proposed roads.

With potential grant funds on the way and the support of students and dozens of community organizations, the highly anticipated Triangle Bike Loop may soon become a welcomed reality in Addison County. Aman has high hopes for the bike loop. "[The bike loop] will better protect cyclists, encourage more people to commute on these safer roads ... and educate motorists about proper etiquette around cyclists," Aman said.

Dead Creek Wildlife Day: Celebrating Vermont's Environment

By COURTNEY CRAWFORD
Contributing Writer

ADDISON — The 17th annual Dead Creek Wildlife Day kicked into gear early on a gray and hazy morning. Blue skies arriving around mid morning on Saturday, Oct. 6, turned the day into one of the more beautiful ones the event has seen in recent years. Largely community-centered and family-oriented, the event is held each year at Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area off Route 17 in Addison, Vermont with the mission to educate, inform and encourage environmental and wildlife awareness.

Two large striped tents set up in the center of the event housed informational booths for an array of organizations. Activities offered included face painting, decoy carving and blue bird box building, while wildlife demonstrations occurred in the surrounding area and information sessions were held in the Dead Creek Headquarters.

Dead Creek Wildlife Day represents the organizational efforts of Warren King, Amy Alfieri and Nicole Meier, among others. They hope to emphasize the importance of getting outside and interacting with the environment and all it has to offer.

"Our goal is to sensitize people... by exposing them to a wide variety of activities for all ages," said King, a conservationist and founding board member of Audubon Vermont, who has helped organize this event since its inception. He highlighted the importance of making more people aware of the wildlife resources available in the Champlain Valley.

An announcer outlined activities occurring every 30 minutes in order to feature all of the resources and their representation at the event. The Vergennes Boy Scouts provided food and further entertainment for attendees with a snack tent and raffle. All proceeds went to the organizations in attendance.

Veterans of Dead Creek Wildlife Day have their favorite activities."We always go straight to the blue bird box building," said one

OLIVIA SUMMERS/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Birdhouse building (top) and wolf taxidermy on display at the 17th annual Dead Creek WIldlife Day.

PUBLIC DOMAIN

Former State Rep. Kiah Morris.

Rep. Kiah Morris Resigns Amid Slew of Racial Harrassment and Threats

By NORA PEACHIN
Staff Writer

Representative Ruqaiyah 'Kiah' Morris (D-Bennington) formally resigned her seat in the Vermont House a little over two weeks ago in light of prolonged racial harassment that pushed her story to national headlines. Elected in 2014 and reelected in 2016, Morris was only the second African-American woman to serve in the State Legislature in Vermont's history.

On Tuesday, Sept. 25, the day of her official resignation, Morris explained her departure on Facebook. She recounted facing "continued [racial] harassment," including "racist comments and threats on social media, vandalism at her home and at the local Democratic Party office, and unwanted intrusion on her home and property," according to an interview she did with Seven Days.

Morris also wrote of her need to support her husband in his "long physical journey of recovery following extensive open-heart surgery." She plans to focus on helping him recover and caring for her family, according to an interview with The Washington Post.

SGA President Nia Robinson '19 considers Morris' resignation significant "because it shows that black women are not immune to racism because of the positions they hold. It also shows that we haven't progressed — as much as we boast about it."

"How unfortunate is it that Kiah Morris has to negotiate her role with the safety of herself and her family?" Robinson said. "Instead of offering suggestions and expressing concerns about the content of the work done, the comments attack her directly as a black woman."

Morris' accomplishments and work are described in full on her website (kiahmorris.com). In a post on Facebook on Aug. 24, Morris outlined an extensive list of the victories and causes to which she was most proud to contribute her support and leadership. The list includes but is not limited to: "no cost contraceptive access for all Vermonters, prescription drug price transparency, support for establishment of gender neutral bathrooms and [establishment of a] medicinal cannabis dispensary in Bennington."

"I am devastated by the fact that she had to resign," said Ruth Hardy, Democratic candidate for the state Senate for Addison County, in an interview with The Campus. "She is an incredibly effective legislator and she was an incredibly powerful voice for people who were literally at the table in Montpelier, so it is a huge loss to our government and a huge loss to our house."

"She was an incredibly powerful voice ... it is a huge loss to our government."

She is on the Board of United Children's Services, serves as a Sisters on the Planet Ambassador for Oxfam America, Leader with Rights and Democracy Vermont, and is on the advisory councils for Emerge Vermont and Black Lives Matter Vermont. She is passionate about social justice, intersectionality, and amplifying diverse voices.

Morris told The Washington Post that the racial harassment she experienced began in 2016, during her reelection campaign. She noted that it coincided with a visible rise of white supremacy in her area during the presidential campaign. "Neo-Nazi propaganda started showing up at the door of the Bennington Democratic Party office," Morris said in the same interview. "Neo-Nazi recruitment fliers were left all over town."

Morris had announced on Aug. 24 that she was dropping her bid for reelection, but that she was determined to finish out her term.

"The last two years have been emotionally difficult for many. Political discourse, and in particular within the sphere of social media has been divisive, inflammatory and at times, even dangerous," she wrote on Facebook. "It is my hope that as a state, we will continue to demand greater support and protections for one another from those forces which seek to divide and destroy our communities."

"I think it is a really sad and horrifying comment on our society."

However, the severity and frequency of the harassment she and her family continued to face forced her to change her plans and resign before the end of her term.

"This is a reality, especially for candidates of color — women of color in particular," Hardy said. She added that gubernatorial candidate Christine Hallquist, who is transgender, has also received death threats and harassment. "I think it is a really sad and horrifying comment on our society," she said.

In an interview with Vermont Public Radio on Aug. 30, Morris described feeling underwhelmed by the response of the Bennington Police Department when she reported the incidents of harassment. Bennington Police Chief Paul Doucette said in a release issue on Sept. 1 that Morris and her husband initiated conversations with police in September 2016 and filed a complaint the following month. Despite investigations into the complaint, no criminal charges were brought forward and no further complaints were filed until July of this year. In the same statement, Doucette claimed that all of Morris and her husbands' complaints had been "investigated appropriately and efficiently."

He described "a series of what seemed to be miscommunications between the couple and [the] police," according to VTDigger.

Morris was the only African-American woman in the Vermont Legislature, and one of only a handful of non-white legislators.

"We need to be clear and confront the fact that in 2018 a black woman was led to resign in response to racial harassment. Some may react in disbelief, but this is a reality many black officials have to face," Robinson said.

Robinson addressed the importance of representation in government, and spoke of her own experiences being part of a minority in a state that is 94.5% white, according to the United States Census Bureau.

"When I came to Vermont for school three years ago, the 'nice' people and community couldn't mask the Confederate flags and uncomfortable stares," Robinson recounted. "Representation is so important because it shows what is available. You get to see people who have fought against odds and created a space for themselves. Representation is where we find the role models. I hope we get to a point where representation is not something we have to look for. We should get beyond the 'firsts,'" she declared.

On Aug. 27, a few days after Morris' resignation, Vermont Attorney General T.J. Donovan announced that he had launched an investigation into the threats Morris allegedly faced. "The Attorney General's Office will work with the Vermont State Police and appropriate computer forensic experts to ensure a thorough and complete investigation of this matter," claimed the statement posted by his office.

In late August, after Morris ended her bid for a third term in the house, Democratic Party committee members chose Jim Carroll to replace Morris on the November 6 ballot. As a tribute to Morris, Bennington Democrats voted to keep her seat open until the beginning of the next legislative session, according to VTDigger.

"In Kiah's case, especially because Vermont is such an overwhelmingly white place, to be an African-American woman who serves her community so effectively, to be the victim of such horrible harassment is devastating," Hardy said. "We all, especially white people like me, need to step up and say, 'This is not okay, we need to do something about that.'"

Additional reporting by Bochu Ding.

Gov. Phil Scott on Former Rep. Kiah Morris' Resignation

By SADIE HOUSBERG
Senior Local Editor

In an interview with the Middlebury Campus (MC), Governor Phil Scott (GS) spoke to the state of representation in Vermont politics in light of former State Rep. Kiah Morris' formal resignation.

MC: I was wondering if you could speak to the treatment of former Representative Kiah Morris. Vermont seems to lack a lot of diversity in politics - in representation in politics

GS: - It's not just politics, it's across the board -

MC: - yes, it's not just politics but it includes politics -

GS: Well that's the problem, we need more diversity, we need more integration.

MC: But if this is what women and women of color in particular see happening in politics, how might you hope to address a situation like that? And do you think that that's what the state of politics is for Vermont?

PS: First of all, the treatment of Kiah was unacceptable. It just isn't acceptable to me or anyone else or it shouldn't be. In fact, I reached out to her ... and asked her to reconsider because if you don't follow through they win. The other side wins. And we can't let that happen. Even though we are different parties and we don't agree politically, I said, 'I will support you publicly if you decide to run.' acting with the environment and all it has to offer.

Look for the full interview with gubernatorial candidate Phil Scott in our special election issue on Nov. 1.

VT Folklife Center Explores Grass-Roots Food Movement with 'Growing Food, Growing Farmers'

By NINA CRUZ
Contributing Writer

COURTESY PHOTO

A portrait of a young farming family in Rutland County.

MIDDLEBURY — Nestled between Otter Creek Bakery and Two Brothers Tavern, the Vermont Folklife Center occupies an ideal spot in downtown Middlebury to offer Vermont-focused exhibits to the public. Currently on display in the Vermont Folklife Center's Vision and Voice Gallery. is the "Growing Food, Growing Farmers" exhibit, a project that began four years ago as a way to showcase the local food movement in Vermont.

The "Growing Food, Growing Farmers" project presents the stories of organic, small-scale farmers in Rutland County. John Barstow, Development Director at the Vermont Folklife Center, explained that it was established in order to "try to get a handle on ... the state of agriculture ('ag') in Vermont today," with an emphasis on local farmers.

The project uncovered a system of farmers in Rutland County all connected to Greg Cox, a farmer well-versed in the ways of organic, small-scale farming. Cox "saw the need to help young people interested in ag get into farming," Barstow said.

Cox rented land and machinery to new farmers and helped them learn more about sustainable agriculture in Vermont. Rather than resist competition at the Rutland farmers' market, he offered the young farmers spots right next to him to sell their vegetables.

Cox spoke to the Vermont Folklife Center about those who doubted his ability to create a viable farm in Rutland. "We just didn't argue the point. We said, 'Well, we think we can.' And with the folks in Rutland, we did it," Cox said.

Perhaps due to the generosity and kind-heartedness of Greg Cox, a mentor for most of the farmers involved in the project, there was a common theme in the interviews that the Vermont Folklife Center conducted: they all strove to help others and protect the environment.

"I think people should keep farming ... it's worth it."

Alisha Braswell, a relatively new farmer, expressed her doubts about the effectiveness of opposing the system of commercial farming around the world. "It's such a big system to fight," she said, "but I think people should keep farming and it's worth it for sure."

Another farmer, Ryan Yoder, emphasized the importance of local action to solve global issues. "If I actually want to make changes and see a better world, I have to do that myself," he said.

Each of the farmers involved in the "Growing Food, Growing Farmers" project was part of an extensive process to capture true sentiments about the local food movement in Rutland County. The purpose of the Vermont Folklife Center, in the words of John Barstow, is to "help Vermonters understand each other better." The Center accomplishes this goal through an ethnographic approach. Ethnography, Barstow describes, "is a method of understanding other people in their own words, their story, removing as much bias as possible."

In their interviews with the Center, the farmers were able to individually express their commitment to improving their community through sustainable agriculture. The exhibit also includes an audio portion: the viewer can listen to clips of interviews with the farmers while perusing the gallery.

Student involvement presents a unique facet of the "Growing Food, Growing Farmers" project. The project organizers hired Macaulay Lerman, a student who participated in the Traditional Arts Apprenticeship program at the Vermont Folklife Center, as the photographer for the "Growing Food, Growing Farmers" exhibit. Lerman used the technique of long exposure and worked with his subjects to best capture their personalities. Barstow had high praise for Lerman and his photographing technique.

"He thinks a lot about how they're posed. He collaborates with them," Barstow said, "so even the photographs are an ethnographic sort of achievement."

The "Growing Food, Growing Farmers" project is one example of the work that the Vermont Folklife Center does to improve our community in Middlebury and in all of Vermont. "There are many ways in which our work heightens awareness and understanding of differences," Barstow noted. "If they heighten understanding, it's not a difference that separates it, it's a difference that contributes to a greater, stronger community."

"The future of agriculture is a big burning question in Vermont."

The "Growing Food, Growing Farmers" exhibit is on display in the Vision and Voice Gallery in the Vermont Folklife Center until Jan. 4, 2019. After that, the Center is hoping to take the exhibit on tour around Vermont, starting in Rutland.

Barstow welcomes visits by Middlebury students to the Center, especially those students interested in Environmental and Food Studies. As Barstow explained, "the future of ag is a big burning question in Vermont."

A Day of Environmental Stewardship

Continued from Page 3

family who had been attending for the past four years. "It's my daughter's favorite part of the day. We make one or two every year and now we have so many that we're going to start giving them to friends!"

A giant semi-circle began gathering at around 10 a.m. for the Warden Dog demonstration to watch Crockett — a Labrador retriever — track human scent. One of the most popular events for the past 10 or so years, this demonstration displayed the interactive nature of the event. In addition, a representative from the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum gave child-friendly talks, including displays of critters ranging from falcons to turtles, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., making clear the passion and dedication for wildlife education and awareness held by all of the volunteers and presenters.

While the event is catered towards families, there have been efforts each year to expand its offerings. Alfieri, the manager of Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, explained that new activities have been added to keep up interest and provide more options for the "diverse crowd" and its "diversity of interests." This year such activities included "Operation Game Thief Trailer," "Beavers: A Sentry to Biodiversity" and "See it. Sketch it. Bird it."

Jeff Whipple, a game warden from Orange County, was thrilled with the turnout. His project, the Operation Game Thief Trailer, displayed examples of anything involving illegal wildlife, including a photo with information about infamous poachers in Vermont and an $8,000 gun used in an illegal killing. Whipple does five to six events with his trailer each year, but said that the number of people at the Dead Creek Wildlife Day surpassed that of all of his other events. His goal with each event is to highlight illegal poaching and to make clear its perverse effects to hunters and non-hunters alike. "We're really trying to pull on people's emotions," he said.

Several Middlebury College students also attended the event, some of whom brought their families for a Fall Family Weekend affair.

"The best part was being able to connect with the local environment through all the activities and getting a better sense of the place we live in," said Jacob Freedman '21. In particular, he enjoyed seeing the "infectious smiles [of the] young kids holding a purple finch and chickadee during the Bird Banding Demonstration."

About a 15-minute drive from Middlebury, the event is an ideal getaway for students and families in the area. King appreciated the presence of a handful of students and said if he were to have it his way, Environmental Science professors at the college would make the event mandatory. or at least recommended, in the coming years.

OLIVIA SOMMERS/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Kids learn how to carve ducks at the decoy-making station.

"It has become increasingly important today to provide opportunities for people to interact with and learn about the environment," said Alfieri. And that is exactly what this event strives to do. Bringing together people from the Addison County community as well as surrounding areas of Vermont and New York to, Dead Creek Wildlife Day aims to raise awareness and create a community of people who appreciate the outdoors.

THE CAMPUS VOICE RETURNS

Listen to the year's first episode of "The Campus Voice," our interview show now in podcast form.

Our first guest is Renee Wells (right), the college's new director of education for equity and inclusion.

Wells is interviewed by Sarah Asch '19.5, editor-at-large (left).

You can listen to the show today at www.middleburycampus.com/campusvoice.

"One of the reasons why I came here is because in the wake of the Charles Murray incident Middlebury is actually a campus that's positioned to either dive into addressing its issues or to sort of say, 'well look we hired someone and we're good.' And I made it very clear when I interviewed that I'm looking for a campus that is going to dive headlong doing an analysis of what needs to be addressed."

- Renee Wells

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In Praise of the First-Year Reading Choice and the Program's Return

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Before the Class of 2022 arrived on campus this year, they were sent and asked to read "The Origin of Others," the latest work by Nobel Prize-winning writer Toni Morrison.

Having a common reading for all incoming students has been a facet of the first-year experience on and off since at least since 1961. That year, students were asked to read "Lord of the Flies" and a collection of essays entitled, "The World Crisis and American Responsibility."

According to a short documentary from 1961 (you can find it on YouTube: "Vintage College Tour: The Story of Middlebury College"), a panel of faculty members would discuss the selection(s) in front of the first-year class and answer questions.

Luckily, that model was abandoned, replaced by intimate small group discussions often led by faculty members.

Not since 2015 has an incoming class been assigned reading.

The last book, "A Chant to Soothe Wild Elephants," was a memoir by an alumnus detailing his journey from Middlebury College to ordained Buddhist monk.

While surely well-intentioned, the choice felt forced, as if the college were saying, "This is the kind of stuff Middlebury students should do after they graduate." Many members of the Class of 2019 disliked the choice.

It is essential that the selected reading foster conversations and challenge students to think critically about new ideas in new ways. "A Chant to Soothe Wild Elephants" missed the mark.

"The Origin of Others," on the other hand, was the perfect selection for the Middlebury of 2018. The book is Morrison's reflection on her own life and work, and the themes that permeate both, including race, fear and "the desire for belonging."

In other words, "The Origin of Others" deals with the very issues that we as an institution must continue to grapple with. Morrison's work exemplified the community's aspirational values of inclusivity, equity and social justice.

The choice also served as the foundation for the 2018 Clifford Symposium of the same name, which explored Morrison's body of work and the overarching issue of racism in America.

The decision to connect the first-year reading with the symposium came after discussions between the symposium's faculty organizers, Residential Commons Faculty Heads and the staff in charge of orientation. According to Larry Yarbrough, a professor of religion and one of the symposium organizers, all agreed that the book would serve as a significant step towards engaging first-years in pertinent issues.

In preparing to write this editorial, The Campus reached out to several first-year students and asked what they thought of the choice.

Many students appreciated receiving early exposure to rigorous discussions on difficult subject matter, the norm in college classrooms. Tying the book to the Clifford Symposium also lowered the barrier of entry into the potentially intimidating intellectual environment that a first-year may seek to avoid when choosing classes. Yarbrough said discussion leaders reported that a majority of incoming students were well-prepared for the conversations and most welcomed the opportunity to engage with the work.

Given the success of this year's common reading, the administration should consider expanding the project to further incorporate the rest of the Middlebury community. Older students would benefit from having the option to participate, and it may help bridge divides between different class years.

In order to incentivize participation, the college might also consider including more than just books. Creating a shared experience worthy of academic discussion can also stem from listening to a thought-provoking podcast or watching a film.

No matter the form, the choice should center on the values and aspirations of the institution. This is what made "The Origin of Others" the perfect choice.

Editorial cartoon by Esme Fahnestrock.

Faculty Letter on Bookstore

Continued from Page 1

and student time.

- The lack of books at the beginning sends a negative signal to students not only about the value of books themselves, but also about the absolute necessity (in an already short semester) to jump directly in to the course material and get to work.
- The whole situation has a significant negative impact on the central thing—teaching—that we do. It undermines the process and experience of teaching and learning, as well as sending a message that course materials are devalued or irrelevant.

We wish to underscore the fact that these problems are in no way the responsibility of the various staff members who have had the difficult task of implementing this system. The fault is entirely in the system itself. We believe that this effort to save costs by cutting the presence of physical books in our bookstore sends the wrong message about our values as a Liberal Arts institution, and we cannot support it. If the college does not resume a system that guarantees our students access to physical books at the beginning of the semester, we will be forced to place these orders at other local venues or to find other means to ensure our students have what they need and deserve.

We understand that the Senior Leadership of the college is aware of the severity of the problem; we appreciate their efforts to rectify an untenable situation, and hope that a solution will be found as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Department of English and American Literatures
Department of Theatre
Louisa Burnham (HIST)
Jane Chaplin (CLAS)
Maggie Clinton (HIST)
Nikolina Dobreva (FMMC)
Murray Dry (PSCI)
Paul Monod (HIST)
Michael Sheridan (SOAN)
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Carly Thomsen (GSFS)
Marc Witkin (CLAS)
Martha Woodruff (PHIL)
Don Wyatt (HIST)

Editor's Note: This letter reflects the views of the Department of English & American Literatures as a whole and came after a discussion during a department meeting. The letter was then circulated among other faculty members who had expressed interest in the issue.

Foreign Correspondents: Considering Kavanaugh in Chile

By VARSHA VIJAYAKUMAR

Whenever I meet someone new in Chile, I am inevitably asked the question: Where are you from?

I usually explain that I was born and raised in the United States, but my parents are from India and that's why I look the way I do. Most people, unable to accept that I can be both, will question me until I give up the American aspect of my identity. They reason that I don't seem like the stereotypical gringa (a term that in most Latin American countries is a condescending way to refer to people from the United States) and therefore can't possibly qualify as a true American. I used to push back, but after these past two weeks, I don't mind that Chileans can't see my hyphen-Americanness.

Right now, I don't want to see it, either.

I am studying on a human rights track at Universidad Alberto Hurtado, a private institution nestled in Chile's capital city, Santiago. The program consists of two courses at the university, an internship and an independent project. Now nearly halfway through my semester abroad, I can confidently say that I feel truly immersed in and aware of the social justice issues around me. But sometimes, I can't help but feel like a hypocrite. As the days go by, I find it increasingly ironic that I flew to a whole other continent to study human rights when there are so many violations happening back home in the States, in my own backyard.

COURTESY PHOTO

Varsha Vijayakumar '20 attended the "aborto libre" protest for reproductive rights involving abortion in Chile.

Living abroad has its benefits. I can choose to be actively invested in American political affairs or shut them out completely. On days when I am emotionally overwhelmed with Chilean issues — like the fact that there are still hundreds of untraceable desaparecidos (missing persons) from Pinochet's brutal dictatorship, or the ways in which Haitian-Chilean immigrants quietly stomach daily acts of racism — I go for the latter, shutting out the news entirely. Ignoring news from home is definitely easier said than done, so I compromise with an artificial time cap: twenty minutes to catch up on the latest in U.S. news, not a second more.

But ever since Dr. Christine Blasey Ford came forward to publicly accuse now-Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh of sexually assaulting her, that compromise went right out the window. For two weeks, my eyes were glued to my phone screen, obsessively refreshing news outlets for the latest on Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation process. I read about Deborah Ramirez and then of Julie Swetnick, by which point I could not focus on much else. It was terrible timing — I was in the middle of an exam period, and had to submit three papers by the end of the week.

My host mother could tell something was off about me, so she timidly broached the topic one night as we were tomando once, or having the Chilean version of tea time. I tried my hardest to explain, but I found myself fumbling for words. I hadn't been taught the words for sexual assault in my Spanish classes.

On Thursday, Sept. 23, the day of the Senate hearings, two of my close friends and I decided to camp out in a cafe, determined to finish our papers for a history class we shared. Instead, we completely broke the language pledge and started ranting to each other about everything that was going on, finally letting out days of pent-up emotions. It is hard enough to be abroad and immersed in a completely different culture — to be around people completely unaware of something that means the world to you is crippling. After a while of impassioned discussion, we tried to go back to writing, but ended up livestreaming the entirety of the Senate hearings. No papers were written that night.

The next day as I was taking the metro back home from university, I came across the video of Ana Maria Archila and Maria Gallagher confronting Arizona Republican Senator Jeff Flake in an elevator. Hearing them speak was immensely validating and exactly what I needed to hear, especially as someone that has also survived sexual violence. Against my best wishes, I began to cry uncontrollably in the train, drawing confused stares from the Chileans around me. An elderly woman tenderly tapped my shoulder on her way out of the train. Todo estará bien, she said. Everything will be alright.

She has a point. Yes, Brett Kavanaugh was officially confirmed to the Supreme Court this past Saturday. And yes, this is one more reason for me to be ashamed of the United States. But these past two weeks have also proven to us the overwhelming solidarity that exists among our communities.

There is power in our voices — and boy, are we screaming.

Varsha Vijayakumar is a member of the Class of 2020.

Cartoon by Esme Fahnestock.

Simple Solutions for Course Registration

By JACK RUDNICK

Everybody wants to start class on the right note. At Middlebury, the hardest part can be getting into the class. The sign-up period is an intensive two minutes when your webpage is liable to crash, your BannerWeb account might not load, or your slow typing results in missing out on first choice classes. Back-up courses might also be full, triggering a frantic search for any available courses that fit your schedule. There are simple solutions that can reduce the stress and difficulty associated with course registration.

The upperclassmen frequently advise disappointed first-years that registration becomes less stressful with each semester. But that is an improvement in individual standing, not a solution for the larger issue. Any registration system will prioritize upperclassmen. That does not mean the only solution should be waiting to move up the proverbial totem pole. Any system can be improved.

A simple solution to reduce stress and increase the frequency of positive outcomes would be to create a multi-round registration system. The first round would allow everyone to enter their top choice classes. A break between rounds one and two would allow students to identify the availability of second choice courses in a calm environment. The break could be anywhere from an hour to a day. This slight variation on the current system allows time to process and prepare, instead of rushing to find another course in the heat of the moment.

It is worth noting that departments do a great job responding to long wait lists and assisting as many students as possible during the add/drop period. Some courses added new sections due to higher than anticipated registration requests. Adding sections to in-demand classes should be encouraged. It is important to respond to student interest in a subject and assist everyone in developing a course of study that fits their needs.

Adding last-minute sections is an important step in easing the stress and negative feelings that are associated with a bad course registration experience. However, it would be preferable to have the necessary number of sections at the start of the registration process. Adding a new section at the start of the year might be complicated by needing to find open rooms, available professors and a time that works for the greatest number of students. Another simple solution could help avoid the problem of overflowing waitlists for classes without an appropriate number of seats. A survey of interest could be sent to college students before the number of sections for each course is finalized. The survey could ask students to list five courses they are interested in taking during the next semester. Departments would be able to better identify courses that need more sections before registration begins, limiting the need to add sections at the last minute.

The current course registration process can quickly spiral, leaving some students scrambling to create a full schedule. The add/drop period and the creation of new sections can help students recover from the registration period, but it is preferable to have a strong registration system that limits the need for adjustments. A few simple changes will create a calmer system and result in higher student satisfaction.

Jack Rudnick is a member of the Class of 2022.

Notes from the SGA Pres.

By NIA ROBINSON

To give students and idea of where energy is being directed this semester, here are four main points of focus:

1. Working with leaders of groups to improve the quality of social life and encourage better communication between student groups.

2. Working with Public Safety to promote safety and be proactive about situations that can be avoided.

3. Streamlining communication about funding opportunities that many students are not aware of.

4. Increasing the quality and quantity of events for students who don't want to drink.

From Public Safety:

For students who live off campus, please be more respectful regarding your neighbors, whether it is not cutting across lawns of people you don't know or being conscious of noise levels outside of daytime hours. It would be a good idea to introduce yourselves to the people you live around if you haven't already. It's never too late to start being a good neighbor.

When crossing the crosswalk, remember to look both ways when crossing. You'd think this wouldn't have to be a reminder. Many drivers have expressed concern about walkers and bikers being oblivious when crossing the street. If you take the time to wave and say thanks, you can also look. Two birds, one stone.

For students who have cars and have expressed frustrations with the lack of spaces, take a look at the handbook. Not only does it let you know where you can park if your original space is filled, it also answers a lot of questions you have. They are also adding 33 spaces for students back to E lot. It won't be the same, but it is what we have to work with for now.

Finally, we are looking to create cooking classes for students. The purpose of it would be basic cooking safety, so we can avoid melting plastic and exploding metal in microwaves. This is also a great way to get to know specific people involved in Public Safety. We will have more information about that in the future.

If anyone has any questions or needs clarification on policies, Public Safety encourages you to reach out.

We will be hosting open hours at The Grille on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8-9 p.m. each night for first-years. We will be in touch with more information as they happen.

Nia Robinson is the president of the Student Government Association and a memberof the Class of 2019.

Refugee Tales and the Signposts of Migration: A Cross-Atlantic Perspective

By DARIEN J. DAVIS

On July 11, 2018, I joined the London-based group Refugee Tales on the fifth day of their pilgrimage through London's busy streets, neighborhoods, parks and commercial throughways in an act of protest and in solidarity with refugees and asylum-seekers in the United Kingdom. Inspired by Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales," Refugee Tales stops each night to commune with locals and listens to stories of refugees by established writers.

Refugee Tales calls for an end to the policy of indefinite detention and the creation of humane policies for migrants fleeing their homelands.

As we walked in solidarity with migrants in London, many across the Atlantic were protesting the inhumane practice of separating children from their parents as they crossed the Mexican border. Closer to Vermont, Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested 25-year-old A (not his full name), a migrant farmer from Addison County, and held him at a detention center in New Hampshire, separating him from his family. These policies are reminiscent of colonial and post-colonial abuses endured by non-white migrants for generations. I think of my own family's history of migration across the British, Portuguese and Spanish empires and through four Caribbean countries before we arrived in the United States.

Europeans and North Americans have also experienced migration, some with more privileges than others. Consider the U.S. southerners and the Quebecois migrants who fled to Brazil in the nineteenth century, the intellectuals and artists who sought refuge in Paris, or the thousands of Irish and Jewish people who left Europe to build new homes in places from Cuba to China. Stories of migration have shaped the lives of many at the college and in the communities where we live.

Today British authorities detain tens of thousands of people in eleven "immigration removal centers," at a cost of over a million pounds per year. While the United States does not practice indefinite detention as a principle, it directs its resources towards immediate deportation. Both policies are inhumane.

Halfway through our pilgrimage, we stopped at Queen Mary University, where state-of-the-art buildings surround the old Sephardic Jewish cemetery. Cemeteries and burial sites have become important signposts of migration and memory even as modernization destroys the cultural history of the less powerful. At Middlebury, the Christianization and burial of Egyptian prince Amun-Her Khepeshef in the graveyard next to the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs exemplifies these tensions.

Migration is connected to the histories of slavery, racism and genocide. It is also connected to scientific innovation and the quest for equality. The Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury and the Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburg document many of these contradictions.

In London, I walked alongside Amazir (not his real name), one of the ten million migrants who have no nationality. He was caught between two countries that refused to recognize him but gladly wanted to conscript him into their armies. Hannah Arendt describes his conundrum in "The Perplexities of the Rights of Man."

The work of scholar Gloria Anzaldúa reminds us that borders have often crossed people rather than the other way around. Later on our walk in London I met AJ, a university student studying social work with his own complicated story of crossing borders and detention. AJ, who may have been born in India or Nepal, was still trying to understand his story after having lost his parents.

When we got to Whitechapel, we stopped at the Cable Street Mural, commemorating the October 1926 demonstrations against fascists who terrorized the migrant and Jewish residents. Confrontations like the one in Charlottesville are not new in the Atlantic world. The mural documents history, but the astute artists have also found a way to embrace the demographic shifts in the neighborhoods by including South Asian subjects in the mural.

As we left the park, I met Patience Agbabi, British Poet Laureate of Canterbury. Agbabi, a child of Nigerian parents, has published the "tale" of Samia (not her real name), a Coptic woman who fled Egypt for the United Kingdom. We talked about poetry's ability to document suffering and portray the complex truth of Samia's story. Later that day, I heard other stories read by the actress Vanessa Redgrave and Neel Mukherjee, author of "The Lives of Others."

The sharing of stories is part of a long tradition of healing and activism. Walking with migrants and listening to their stories help us notice the migrant signposts in our surroundings. It also creates a new awareness that can lead to a shift in consciousness. The goals of Refugee Tales align with the ambitions of many groups calling for more humane migration policies.

Today, I look at landscapes and architecture differently. I consciously notice the signposts shaped or touched by migrants globally and locally.

According to the American Immigrant Council, migrants make up 4.5 percent of Vermont's population. Historically, these numbers have included Italian and Irish migrants who worked in the mills and helped build St. Mary's Catholic Church. Towns and businesses with Anglicized French names and the sound of Bosnian in the aisles of Hannaford are potential fragments of the migrant tales waiting to be uncovered.

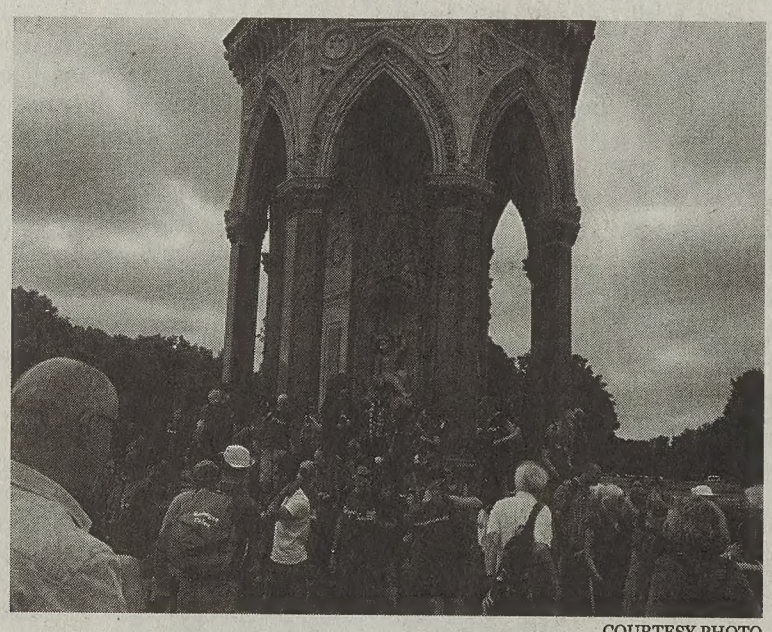
And then there are the environmental and cultural ironies, such as the Mexican dairy farmers and Jamaican apple pickers who travel thousands of miles to help produce goods "Made in Vermont." Migrants have also shaped Middlebury's curriculum. They help prepare our food and take care of our grounds.

In the current climate it is important to recognize the stories and signposts of migrants and refugees. Refugee Tales encourages us to listen, to notice, to walk and to act to transform our politics. It is a beautiful model for both sides of the Atlantic.

David Herd and Anna Pincus will bring Refugee Tales to the Abernathy Room in Axinn on October 15 (4:30-6:00 p.m.). They will discuss Refugee Tales and read several migrant stories written by established writers in the United Kingdom. Please join us for a cross-Atlantic discussion. Weather permitting, we will take a short walk of solidarity with migrants, refugees and asylum seekers from Proctor Hall terrace through the cemetery to the Center for the Arts beginning at noon.

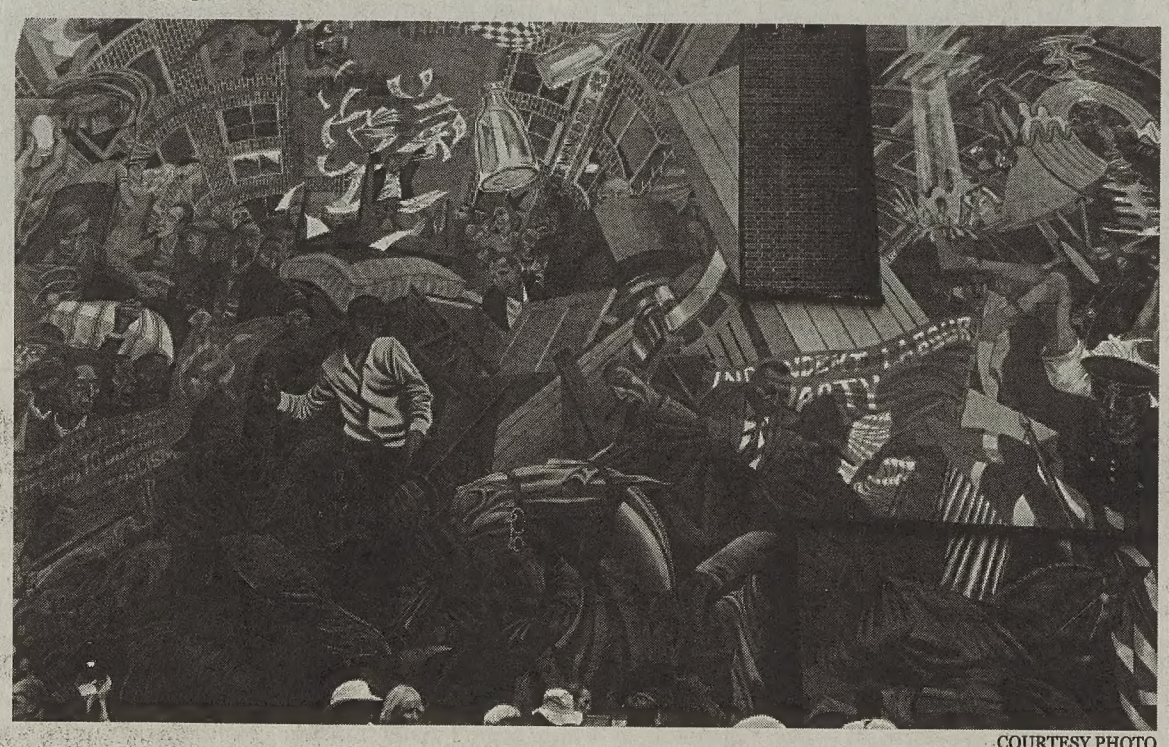
COURTESY PHOTO

The Refugee Tales' pilgrimage stops at the Sephardic Jewish cemetery at Queen Mary's University.



COURTESY PHOTO

The pilgrimage stops in front of the Albert Memorial in London for a rest.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Cable Street Mural documents 19th century injustices against migrant and Jewish residents of Whitechapel.

I Am Not Surprised

By GRACE VEDOCK

I watched Dr. Ford's testimony on my phone, earbuds in, catching snippets of the spectacle whenever I could. It was gut-wrenching, but I needed to see it. I was walking across campus from one class to another; my eyes were glued to the phone. As I turned a corner to proceed along the sidewalk, I looked up for a brief moment to double check that I was headed in the right direction.

When I looked up, I saw a deeply depressing but telling sight: multiple women walking in various directions across campus were watching the testimony, some with tears in their eyes, some with open mouths, some shaking their heads.

I sat down in class, still watching the testimony, not knowing how to process Dr. Ford's pain. I was visibly upset. A male classmate tapped me on the shoulder to ask if I was okay (I wasn't). I took my headphones out and pointed to the testimony happening on the screen. Remarkably, he responded by turning to me and, looking quite confused, asking: "that's today?"

It baffled me that he could somehow miss this. If you are a survivor of sexual assault, it is almost impossible to avoid Dr. Ford's testimony and its implications about the deeply-entrenched misogyny enshrined in the highest halls of government in this country.

I see so many people reliving their traumas — people who are brave enough to step forward, like Dr. Ford, and people who don't report, because they know that justice is rarely served when the offender is rich, white and can capitalize on the culture that accepts "I like beer" as an excuse. I was one of the many people who hung "Believe Survivors" posters around campus later that day. I wanted to spread awareness. I wanted to send a message to everyone: if you are a survivor, we believe you. If you are not, the sign sent a clear message — you need to believe them. Not a few hours passed before some of those posters were viciously torn down.

I am angry. I am upset. I am distraught. I am baffled that my classmate was blissfully unaware of the testimony. I am offended that someone tore down the signs. I am stunned that the Senate has learned nothing from Anita Hill. I am deeply troubled that perpetrators of sexual violence can continue their lives without being properly held accountable for their conduct, while their victims (since most offenders are repeat offenders) relive their trauma every day. I am terrified that these offenders benefit from this culture that privileges their humanity over another person's. I am furious that this culture informs the power structures present in the world, in this country and at Middlebury.

But as a survivor myself, I have seen the reality of the world that doubts my story as much as it doubts Dr. Ford's. And I am not surprised.

Grace Vedock is a member of the Class of 2020.

The Lookbook

Fashion Prescripton Glasses

By CLARK LEWIS

This past summer, I purchased a new pair of prescription glasses from Vision Works. I got a pair of dark brown Kate Spade glasses which were square-shaped and tortoise-patterned. This was the first pair of glasses I bought since switching to contacts in high school, so I was excited to get something new and more mature.

I paid for the glasses using the money I had earned interning in Boston this summer. This was the first time I, and not my parents, paid the couple hundred dollars for the frames and prescription lenses. It wasn't until it was time to pay and I heard the price, that I began to wonder why prescription glasses are so expensive.

The first time I failed a vision test and realized I would need to get glasses, I was in the third grade. I felt ashamed and weirded out by the idea of needing help to see, something that all the other kids seemed to have no problem doing. Over the years, my glasses became a part of my identity and I haven't thought much about my vision since.

However, I have thought about how expensive and time consuming having a visual aid can be. Nowadays, glasses are deemed a fashion accessory and you can find a stylish but fake pair at almost any clothing store. I find it comical walking into these stores and seeing "fashion glasses" for people who do not need glasses but want to try out the look. It is unfortunate that for individuals who actually need visual aid, real glasses are so expensive.

COURTESY PHOTO

Many people all around the world wear prescription glasses, but it turns out that only one company has been behind most of the production. Luxottica is an Italian eyewear company that, one could argue, has a monopoly over the eyewear industry. Given so little competition from other eyewear companies, Luxottica is able to dominate the industry and set steep prices for their eyewear frames. The company is considered "vertically integrated," meaning that they are in charge of the design, manufacture and sales of all their frames. They even own the vision insurance company EyeMed. Though the company's representatives have argued that they do not have a monopoly on the industry, it is interesting to note that Luxottica possesses the largest market share within it. They have their hand in retail stores such as LensCrafters, Pearle Vision, SunGlass Hut International, Sears and Target. They are also responsible for brands such as Chanel, Burberry, Ray-Ban, Oakley, Coach and Ralph Lauren. Needless to say, Luxottica is omnipresent and able to control a reported 14 percent of the eyewear industry.

The company with the next largest market share is Essilor — a French-based lens manufacturer. In contrast to Luxottica's specialty in frames, Essilor credits its 13 percent market share to being the biggest manufacturer of lenses. Given that the two companies provide the only real source of competition in the market for each other, it is concerning that in 2017, Essilor and Luxottica announced plans for a merger. While they are still seeking approval from governments around the world for their plan, many are concerned that this would lead to complete domination over the eyeglass industry and an uncontrollable monopoly. What will happen if the world's biggest manufacturer of frames merges with that of lens?

If there is one thing I remember from Professor Sommers' 100-level microeconomics class, it's that monopolies are not good for the consumer. Being the largest or only supplier in an industry allows the company to set whatever prices they want for their products. This means high cost for customers and little to no competition to give customers other options.

Given that many people depend on prescription glasses to see and live their daily lives, I have personally found it difficult to accept that something I need to survive costs so much. Paying for yearly eye exams, frames, lenses and then waiting five to ten business days for my glasses to arrive seems unfair considering the accessibility of fashion glasses at the local Forever 21.

I am very happy with the way my new Kate Spade glasses look and I think they are a nice item to complement my preppy aesthetic. But every time I put them on, I remember the hours of work I spent interning to pay for them. Visual aid has become like any other accessory, inspiring new styles and fashion trends, I just wish I didn't have to pay so much to be able to see.

Clark Lewis is a member of theClass of 2019.

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Ioana Uricaru's Journey to Her First Feature Film

Continued from Page 1

"I wanted to make a film about a Romanian woman who immigrates to America, because that's what I know," Uricaru said. "That's what I lived through."

When she heard the overly-optimistic American expression that seems to suggest any trouble can be turned into something positive, she was puzzled and found it "really stupid and almost offensive."

Later, she started to realize that the idea behind the saying is one deeply rooted in American culture — the belief that one can always find a way around hardships as long as one makes the effort. Yet that may not be totally aligned with reality, as the challenges faced by Mara in the film show.

Uricaru's own story as a filmmaker and an immigrant perhaps can be seen as one of making lemonade out of lemons. Her father is a writer, her mother teaches Romanian, and Uricaru grew up in Cluj, a city in Transylvania, in a house full of books and a love of literature and fiction. At the same time, she grew up under the Communist dictatorship of Nicolae Ceaușescu. Control over media is just one of the many repressive aspects of the totalitarian regime, and going to the cinema to watch movies became one of the very few things that Uricaru enjoyed and needed in order "to escape the bleakness of everyday life."

The reality of the dictatorship also influenced Uricaru's choice in what to study in university, and she considered the range of options to be very narrow.

"A lot of possibilities were just out of the question, because many of the humanities were not just ideologically influenced, but [also] ideologically controlled," she said. "You couldn't do literature, or history, or philosophy — anything like that — and have a good feeling about it."

The sciences were what remained. For young Uricaru, going to a large city after university to work was also important. A degree in science and a potentially high-level research job in laboratories seemed to be the way to achieve success in Communist Romania, where the government would assign graduates their jobs.

Uricaru graduated from University of Bucharest in the Romanian capital with a Masters of Science in Biochemistry. The degree, however, did not land her a job in a lab. When she was still a student at the university, violent demonstrations against the totalitarian regime led to the overthrow of the government and the execution of Ceaușescu, ending the 42 years of Communist rule of Romania. What followed was a painful transition to capitalism and democracy.

"Although I was a student in biochemistry, I felt that this is the last chance that I have to maybe do something else," she said. "So I started thinking about it, and I realized that I still wanted to do film."

The only film school in Romania, National University of Theatre and Film, was harder to get in than one might imagine. The school would only accept about seven students each year for the directing track, and there was a rumor that only those with private ties could get in.

Despite not knowing anything about film production, Uricaru believed it was the last chance that she had to pursue her passion. She took the admissions test twice, first when she was still in her fourth year of the biochemistry program, then when she had finished her science degree.

She compared the test to the kind of reality television show in which people try to survive on an island. It was probably a little less dramatic, but there were multiple rounds of stressful competition over the course of one week that eliminated the number of applicants from 120 to seven.

"I thought ... if I don't get in the second time, then forget it, I'm just going to become a scientist," she said. "But I did get in the second time."

The offer was not something she could turn away, and she started her journey toward becoming a filmmaker. Later, she continued her studies at USC and paid for the tuition herself through — unexpectedly but perhaps not surprisingly — a teaching assistantship in the university's biology department.

"So in the end, it was good that I did the degree in biology. It was useful," she said, laughing.

It was also useful in the sense that filmmaking is as much a process of artistic creation as analytic, scientific organization. Uricaru possessed skills and experiences for both, and the duality of their combination resonates with both "Lemonade" and her identity.

"Lemonade" is a Romanian film and is mainly produced by a Romanian company, while it is also set in the U.S. and focuses on this country of immigrants, making it somewhat similar to an American indie film.

"I'm now a permanent resident, so I'm kind of an American now too. And if I ever get an American citizenship, I will keep my Romanian citizenship," Uricaru said. "So I'm going to always be both. I like the film to also be both."

The film depicts the struggle of balancing two identities as an immigrant in the U.S., and the events in it all came from real-life stories that Uricaru gathered through extensive interviews with young Romanian immigrants with children. They told her different stories, but all of them expressed a similar sense of "ambivalence between what they left behind and the new country." Uricaru found that they somehow saw themselves as "the sacrificial generation," and that they were doing everything for their children, who were either born in the U.S. or came here early on.

The immigrants she interviewed had some discoveries of their own, too. When she told them that she was looking for a little boy about eight or nine years old, who speaks Romanian to play Mara's son character in the film, they all responded that their children could speak Romanian, which turned out to not be the case when she met the children.

"The parents lived in this kind of illusion almost, because they spoke Romanian around the house, [and] the child seemed to understand, but actually the child didn't speak it," Uricaru explained, adding that many parents had since told her they started to try encouraging their kids to speak the language more.

Uricaru was interested in this feeling of not fully belonging in either place and the constant self-questioning of whether the decision to emigrate was a good one. As for herself, she found it difficult to tell if that is something she still wonders about. What was more important was that she make a "very conscious effort" to spend time in Romania and do work there so that she stays in touch.

COURTESY PHOTO

Professor Ioana Uricaru is in her seventh year teaching film production and screenwriting at Middlebury.

If the style of her film can be an indicator of whether or not she has stayed in touch, it seems that Uricaru has. According to media production specialist Ethan Murphy, "Lemonade" is "very much in the style of new wave Romanian [cinema]." One of the film's producers is Cristian Mungiu, an established Romanian filmmaker whose achievements include a Golden Palm at the Cannes Film Festival.

Mungiu is among a group of new Romanian filmmakers who have been exceptionally well-received in the last 15 years.

To show me the Romanian films she considers to be masterpieces during our interview, Uricaru stood up from her office chair and reached for a few DVDs, including "The Death of Mr. Lazarescu" (2005) and Mungiu's "4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days" (2007). The films have come to represent what people call "Romanian minimalism" — the idea that the individual story and detail of everyday life are emphasized, as opposed to the focus on the national and the collective under the Communist regime.

"It's really a contagion," she said, referring to the filmmakers who continue to produce excellent films. "So I'm very proud to be a Romanian filmmaker at this time, I think it's great."

In the one-hour talk with Uricaru in her office in Axinn, the fact that she is a professor dedicating a lot of of her time teaching two classes in one semester almost faded into the background.

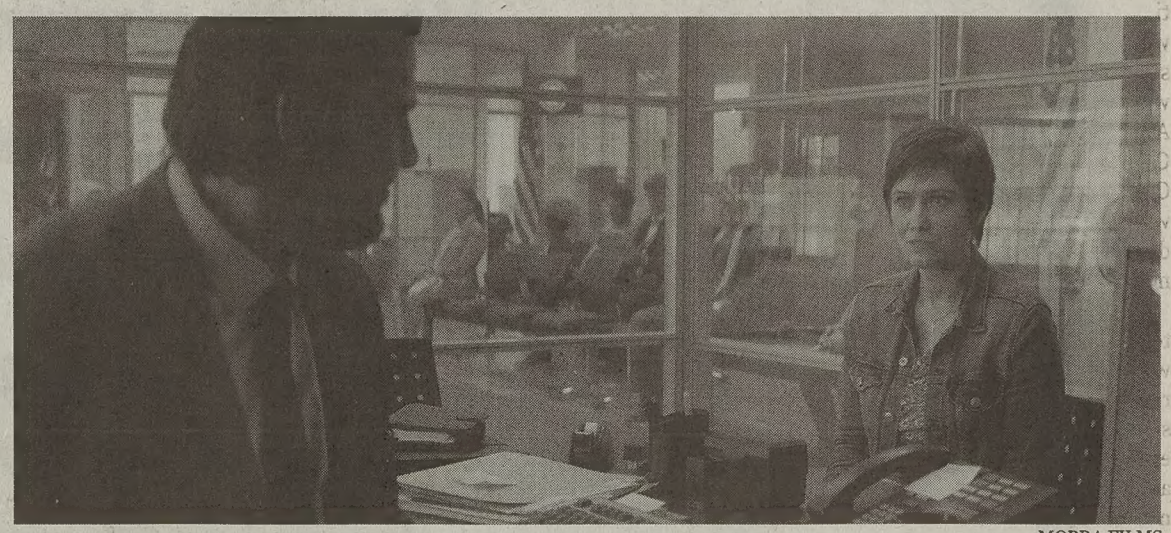
Finne Murphy '19 is an English major taking Uricaru's screenwriting class, and she appreciates how hard she pushes students to make their screenplays even better. Murphy, not unlike Uricaru, grew up with a writer father.

"[My father] has a MFA in screenwriting, so my whole life he has been writing scripts. I grew up learning it, but I've always wanted to write fiction," Murphy said. "But since being in this class, I kind of wish I was a Film and English double major, or that I had started this sooner."

This is now Uricaru's seventh year at Middlebury — producing "Lemonade" took eight. She shot the film in Canada during her year on sabbatical and completed the post-production while teaching, flying to Europe during one semester, Thanksgiving and winter breaks.

After its Canadian premiere in Montreal (where it was also shot) this week and before its Romanian premiere next week, "Lemonade" will reach Middlebury audiences as well. The film will be screened this Saturday as part of the Hirschfield International Film Series. Uricaru and Mălina Manovici, who plays the film's protagonist, will be in attendance for discussion after each screening. The film will also be shown in Burlington on Oct. 18 at the Vermont International Film Festival.

Editor's note: Finne Murphy is an Arts & Academics editor.



MOBRA FILMS

Mara (Mălina Manovici), a Romanian single mother, tries to get a green card in Uricaru's debut feature, "Lemonade."

Stories Come to Life at Cocoon

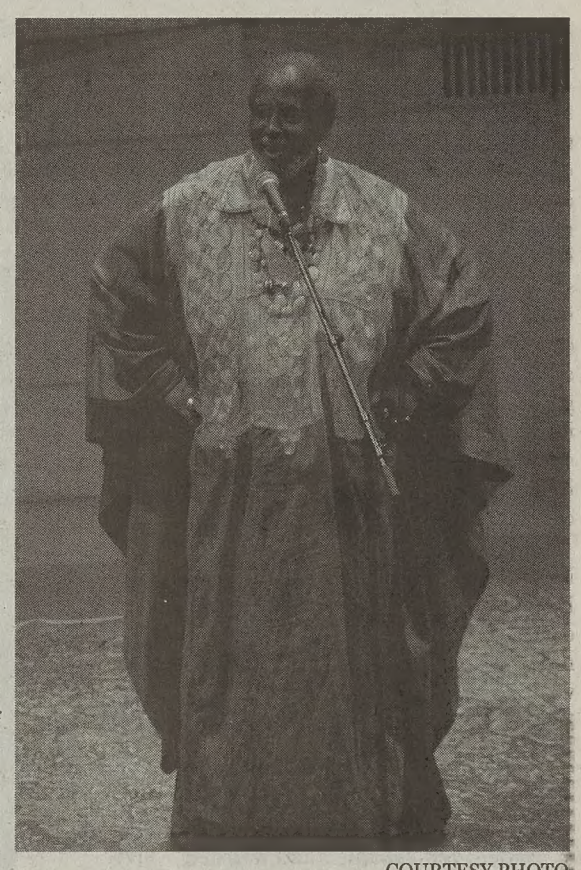
By BEN BEESE
Contributing Writer

The stage is set — or rather, it isn't. The bare rug and single microphone frame a strikingly empty space. In the coming hours, this space will see death, love, fear, disappointment and a stoned man in the woods named Dave. This is Cocoon.

The show began with Sarah Asch '19.5 and Elsa Rodriguez '21 explaining the rules of this particular event, held Friday, Oct. 5 at the Mahaney Center for the Arts: storytellers have ten minutes to tell a story. And it must be true. Asch and Rodriguez, along with their co-organizers Adam Druckman '19, John Schurer '21, Zeinab Thiam '21 and Mahaney Center Director Liza Sacheli, invited seven members of the greater Middlebury community, from students to a local farmer to a celebrity artist-in-residence and more, to speak to the night's theme of "Origins."

Asch and Rodriguez left the stage and so started the sometimes painful, sometimes joyous process of metamorphosing seven unknown faces into seven rich, disorienting, frightening, ecstatic narratives. That is to say, into seven very real lives.

Kyle Wright '19.5 spoke of his starving, backcountry quest to grieve for his deceased younger brother. Jon Turner, of Wild Roots Farm, described his continual struggle with his father, exasperated by a long legacy of military involvement and his own experiences in the Gulf War. Maria Del Sol Nava '18, now an admissions staff member, searched for her calling amid intense pressure to excel. Megan Job '21 knew she could excel but struggled to maintain that conviction when her environment did not share it. Recent Middlebury retirees, Linda and Ira Schiffer, had to learn how to be parents while also being immigrants in Israel. François Clemmons, an artist-in-residence, sacrificed his love and sexuality for decades to protect "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood," weathering a family that rejected him and a failed marriage in the process.



COURTESY PHOTO

François Clemmons talked about starring in a children's show as a closeted gay man.

Then, in the dark midst of these trials, there was a break in the clouds. Clemmons put on a wedding dress, raised a toast to himself, and shouted, "I'm finally the bride!" The Schiffer family returned from the Middle East, their children graduated (as Febs) and bravely traversed the world in two different circuses. Job burned the racism and discouragement she found as a freshman to fuel her powerful podcast "BLCKGRLMGC" (and she made the naysayers eat their words through her academic excellence). Del Sol Nava embraced the fire that her father and Rabbi Schiffer lit in her to continually pursue her passions. Turner left the army, fell in love, got married, started making peace with his now late father, and grew determined to give his kids the father he wished he'd had. Wright found that braving the elements in the woods could tell him how much he wanted a cheeseburger, but only coming home to his newborn sister would teach him how to boldly love despite a fear of loss.

COURTESY PHOTO

Maria Del Sol Nava '18 shared her journey pursusing her real passions.

In the end, we are our own stories. Struggles and victories define a person. Friday night, seven people — faces one might have seen on campus, driving down College Street, at Hannaford, or maybe never before — became real, four-dimensional people, struggling and rejoicing as much as anyone. It is rare to see another human, a stranger to most, in such completeness. The speakers at Cocoon communicated this completeness in only ten minutes. Ultimately, the event posed the question, "What is a life?" In doing so, the audience was led to ponder what events define their story and was reminded that everyone has just as complicated, messy and real a story as themselves. Life has no extras. These are, perhaps, points that ought to be posed more frequently, but at least one can thank Cocoon for making them in such an entertaining and emotional way as last Friday.

DON'T MISS THIS

Thursday Night at the Museum

Museum Thursdays will feature various types of informal events, from student gallery talks to musical performances to contemplative coloring and artist-led sketching and beyond, and free refreshments will be available (while they last!)

Thursday, 10/11, 6 p.m., Mahaney Center for the Arts, Museum of Art.

André Aciman Reading and Talk

André Aciman is Distinguished Professor of Comparative Literature at the Graduate Center, CUNY. He is the author of "Out of Egypt: A Memoir," "False Papers," "Alibis", and four novels, including "Call Me by Your Name," which was adapted into an award-winning film in 2017.

Wednesday, 10/17, 4:30 p.m., Twilight Auditorium, Room 101

Refugee Tales

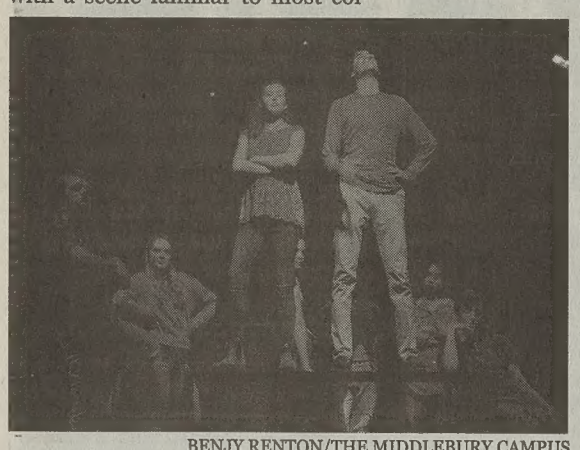
The group "Refugee Tales" walks in solidarity with Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Immigration Detainees, reclaiming the landscape of South East England for the language of welcome. Representatives will present their project, discuss their call for the end of indefinite detention in the United Kingdom, and read the published tales of refugees with whom and for whom group walk.
Monday, 10/15, 4:30 p.m., Axinn Center Abernethy Room.

First-Year Show Brings Together Original Short Plays

By HATTIE LeFAVOUR
Contributing Writer

The cast of "You Are Here," the 23rd annual First Year Show, launched their Middlebury acting careers this past week with timely messages of self-exploration and love. The show, written entirely by students and alumni, took place in the Hepburn Zoo from Oct. 4 to Oct. 6 and consisted of short plays cut with dramatic performances of poetry. The segments were thematically strung together by the concepts of identity and belonging, giving both the show and cast a feeling of cohesion.

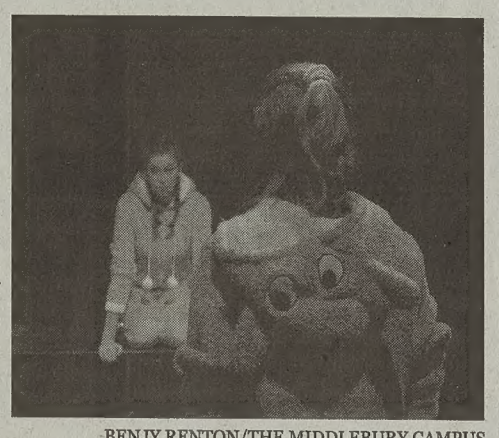
The first short play, titled "The Meaning of Things," written by Emily Ma '21, expertly hammered down the persisting theme of human experience and introspection with a scene familiar to most college students. Featuring Liv and Kiera, played by Cecelia Scheuer '21 and Melanie Chow '22, respectively, the scene takes place in the back room of a party where the two girls mock the seeming frivolity of their college lives and provide passionate commentary on the "fuzzy in-between world of clamped down impulses" that we live in. The familiarity of the characters and Liv's ardent calls to let yourself feel and want, unsubdued, provide the light that the rest of the show is seen through.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
"You Are Here" not only starred first years, but was also written and directed by students and alumni.

The remaining performances include an array of topics such as ambivalent phone calls to Mom, an existential debate surrounding classification of an "unclassifiable" person in an alternate world, our place within the changing seasons and two lovers who seem to have known each other in another time.

Pulling the most laughs was a short play titled "Sam and Ava" written by Cole Merrell '21 featuring Sam, a man looking for relationship advice played by Gibson Grimm '22, and Ava, the Siri-esque artificial intelligence voice that provides it, played by Ryan Opelia-Young '22. Of his role, Opelia-Young said that he's glad he could start his Middlebury acting career with a "more comedic character," which quickly became apparent to the audience. Ava provides advice in the form of cheerful, attitude-ridden quips that contrast the complex emotional issue faced by Sam, reinforcing the universality of our experiences while also providing some lighthearted relief.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
The short scenes centered on a range of topics, including college life and romance.

The most notable of the poetry, all of which was written by Sam Boudreau '19, is titled "F-A-T" and is performed through a "dance party" in celebration of body fat. The cast emphatically screams their appreciation for their own bodies while dancing around in piles of Oreo wrappers, conveniently left over from the previous scene in which a girl destroys the anthropomorphized version of her own guilt by finally allowing herself to enjoy Oreos without wishing she hadn't. (It's reported that, along with the many hours of rehearsal put in by the cast and crew, they had the arduous task of eating all of the Oreos together beforehand.)

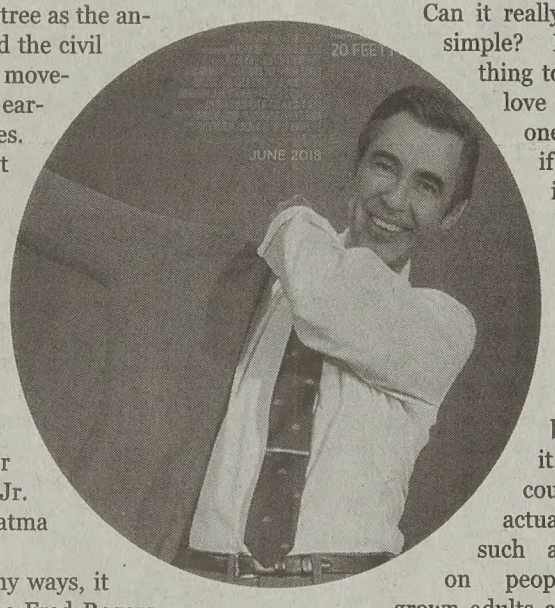
The final play, "Sam and Madeleine," also written by Merrell, was the most personal and elegant of the show. This heartfelt scene, featuring Francis Price '22 as Sam and Nimaya Lemal '21.5 as Madeleine, was a pure conversation between two lovers getting to know each other. Lemal described the scene as "honest and simple and hopeful," and said that she felt attached to the scene for the feeling it emoted of "looking for one beautiful, reliable thing in your life that is simply good — and wanting to share it with someone you love."

The scene drew in the audience emotionally while physically drawing in the rest of the actors, who rose from the side-stage shadows to gather around the two characters. Here the show ended, with the cast echoing the final line of the play: an answer to the question, "If you could go anywhere in the universe right now, where would you go?" to which Sam and the rest of the cast reply: "I'd stay right here."

Two Neighbors' Reactions to Mr. Rogers

By BEN BEESE
Contributing Writer

We are in another age of heroism. With every great struggle of each national and international drama, protest, activists and general outcry fill the air. Hope for a better future may seem, at times, in short supply, but the general rage at the current state of affairs is a reminder that people care and are actively working to fight for any and every small improvement. The #MeToo movement, to take one example, is surely a leaf on the same tree as the anti-war and the civil rights movements of earlier times. It is not unreasonable to wonder who will become the next Martin Luther King Jr. or Mahatma Gandhi.



MAGNOLIA PICTURES

In many ways, it will not be Fred Rogers. Rogers was not the man leading protests. He was not in the streets with angry signs. He did not use his celebrity status as a jumping board for political activism. His big political moment was when he won funding for PBS, not by yelling or politicking, but by reciting a children's song about restraining one's anger. Rogers was a wealthy, white Christian who grew up to be the soft-spoken, cardigan-wearing host of a children's show. One director described his show as the opposite of everything that marks good television. Yet he was the subject of last Saturday's film of the Hirschfield International Film Series, which attracted what many called the largest crowd seen at a such an event. There were tears in routinely dry eyes. At the film's conclusion, François Clemmons, who portrayed Officer Clemmons on the program and was a friend of Rogers' and of Middlebury, said through tears, "I have never before been speechless."

What did Fred Rogers ever do to earn such reverence? His show was, admittedly, unique in many regards. Yet this reverence transcends artistic independence. Rogers did something truly revolutionary. Rogers told children that, no matter who they are, they deserve to be loved. And he believed it.

That message lost no power as it traveled through half a century and a black and white projection to the audience in the Dana Auditorium. One has to wonder if the overwhelming emotion the audience felt was for Rogers or for themselves, having been told for the first time in who-knows-how-long that they are unique, special, lovable and loved. It makes one wonder what sort of world we would live in if everyone was reminded of that fact more often. That is precisely what Mr. Rogers was doing.

Can it really be that simple? It's one thing to say you love someone, even if you say it slowly with some emotion and conviction behind it. But could that actually have such an effect on people? On grown adults as well as children? They should know that they're loved without needing constant reminders, right? The Hirschfield event showed the powerful necessity of those three words. (Fun fact: Fred Rogers weighed exactly 143 pounds for years, which to him represented the number of letters in each word of "I love you."). Not only was Dana Auditorium packed at 3 p.m. on a Saturday during the event-filled Fall Family Weekend, but there was a noticeable energy buzzing silently through the theatre during Clemmons' Q&A. This was not a film that people enjoyed so much as one they didn't know that they needed.

There is no doubt that the world needs, now as much as ever, those dynamic, exuberant social figures and forces such as Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr. and #MeToo, but perhaps we should also remember the unimaginable power of simply loving each other. If we start with love, and end with love, maybe we can bring people that much closer together. Could there be a bigger need to bring people together than now when our campus and our country is often diametrically divided? It's as simple as saying, "Won't You Be My Neighbor?"

By OWEN MASON-HILL
Contributing Writer

This weekend, the Middlebury campus was graced by the iconic combination of Fred Rogers and François Clemmons, a duo that educated an entire generation of children. The Hirschfield International Film Series brought Academy Award winning director Morgan Neville's Fred Rogers biopic, "Won't You Be My Neighbor" to Middlebury, along with a special Q&A with former actor and Middlebury teacher François Clemmons. In this documentary, Neville pairs together first hand anecdotes from those closest to Rogers with behind the scenes footage of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," the television show that helped Rogers become a household name.

Throughout his career, Fred Rogers spread messages of love, compassion and understanding to America's children. He fought for what he believed in withsong rather than violence In one instance, which the film touches upon, Rogers goes before the U.S. Senate to testify on behalf of public broadcasting, in order to secure the $20 million that President Richard Nixon sought to reallocate. In what seemed a losing battle, Rogers simply sat in front of the microphone and spoke the words of one of his songs on control and anger. After he was finished, Senator John Pastore defied expectation and said, "I think it's wonderful. Looks like you just earned the $20 million." This was the power of Rogers that often went overlooked. He inhabited a soft-spoken courage that allowed him to turn a low-budget children's program into a national phenomenon that taught children how to handle the complex emotions of life.

It is no accident that "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" stayed on air for 33 years and aired over 900 episodes. Rogers' genius came from his remarkable and revolutionary understanding of children. Being an overweight child in his adolescence, Rogers was no stranger to bullying and strove to provide children with the much needed support and compassion that he lacked during his early years. Through the combination of his kind smile and the array of puppets he portrayed, Rogers was able to strike at the heart of his audience, tacking problems as simple as being angry, to as complex and difficult as the assassination of Bobby Kennedy. Children's emotions are just as complex as those of adults; they just need someone like Mister Rogers to tell them that it is normal to feel the way they do and that there are ways to deal with their issues. The film encapsulates these ideals perfectly, capturing the true genius of Rogers and allowing the audience to understand fully how revolutionary a thinker he was.

In my opinion this film is one of the best of the year. It is a must-see for those who tuned into "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" as a child as well as for those who didn't. This film allows the audience to step inside the world Rogers created, a world birthed from a combination of Rogers' mind and reality. This film encapsulates the emotional capacity of Rogers and reaches its hand out from the screen and touches its audience's heart. Everyone can appreciate this film, and I think that it should be mandatory viewing. As Rogers remarks, everyone needs to hear that they are special, that they are perfect just for existing and don't ever need to change. Some may think that this created an entitled generation, but that is just a misuse of Rogers' philosophy. To truly understand this film is to love yourself and your neighbor, equally.

After the film was over, François Clemmons got up from his seat in the theater and walked onto the stage, opening the forum for questions from the audience. What resonated throughout his speaking was the fact that Rogers completely embodied the kind generous spirit that characterized his show. Clemmons spoke of how, even though Rogers would begin each episode by changing into the iconic sweater and lacing up his sneakers, he never had to change to become 'Mister Rogers' — he acted as he lived. Rogers became the paternal figure Clemmons had lacked in his life and never failed to be there for him. When Clemmons was sick, Roger would show up at his door. When Clemmons would sing, Rogers would sit in the front row to listen. This unending, unconditional love permeated Rogers' life and also helped Clemmons become who he is today.

Though Rogers died in 2003, his kind spirit and generous soul can never be stopped. During his time at Middlebury, Clemmons sought to create a community in the vision of Rogers. At Thanksgiving, Clemmons would not only host a dinner for the students who couldn't return home, he would host a dinner on Friday,-Saturday and Sunday, and when it was time to leave, he would ensure that each student left with a bag full of leftovers. After the tragedy of September 11, Clemmons found himself standing on Battell Beach, singing. Clemmons had lived in New York for over 25 years, and the events had shaken him to his core. Though he started singing alone, Clemmons soon found himself surrounded by his fellow Middlebury community members, all singing and partaking in mourning. This is the kind of community that Rogers and Clemmons want, a community that shares in happiness and sorrow. A community built on the pillars of fellowship and kindness.

The film remarked on Rogers's fondness of silence, and, as Rogers would do in every one of his speeches, allowed its interviewees as well as the audience to sit in pure silence for a full minute. Thus we sat, in a crowded room on a Saturday evening, surrounded by our parents and our brothers and our sisters. Mr. Rogers asked us to remember those whom we have loved and this who have loved us. As I sat there next to my mother, I couldn't help but shed a tear, reminiscing on the people I had to leave behind on my journey to Middlebury, the people who showed me unconditional support and affection throughout my life, the people who guided me and protected me. This film has the power to do that, the power to make you remember what is essential in life, or more specifically who is essential in life.

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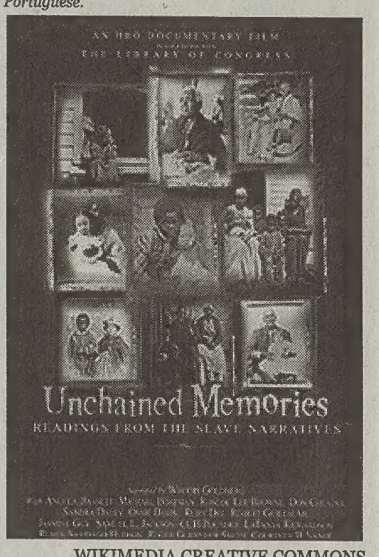
The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Senior Columnist

Literatures & Cultures Librarian Katrina Spencer is liaison to the Anderson Freeman Center, the Arabic Department, the Comparative Literature Program, the Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies (GSFS) Program, the Language Schools, the Linguistics Program, and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.



WIKIMEDIA CREATIVE COMMONS

Unchained Memories: Readings from the Slave Narratives

As a black American, I've wondered many a time about the culture surrounding cotton, tobacco and sugar plantations in the 18th and 19th centuries in the South and throughout the black diaspora of the Western hemisphere; I've also wondered about what life was like for enslaved African peoples and their descendants who worked those plantations. This film, documentary-like in its composition, revealed more information to me about what my ancestors were subjected to and provided information that is rarely prioritized or given its due weight in curricula across the United States. Made in conjunction with the Library of Congress and with the participation of several A-list stars from black Hollywood including Whoopi Goldberg, Ossie Davis, Angela Bassett, Don Cheadle and Samuel L. Jackson, this film draws on slave narratives from the last generation of African Americans who lived within the confines of slavery before, during and some even after the American Civil War. In the 1930s, the Works Progress Administration spent two years collecting more than 2,000 interviews in which black people who were former slaves reported on their lives of bondage. The stories include a diverse array of topics: the auction block, courting, the Underground Railroad, daily quotas for cotton picking, rape, whippings, forbidden literacy, church and religious culture, social hierarchies within black communities and more. An all-black cast of actors dramatize the readings of the narratives, interpreting the personas of the original interviewees, assuming their vernaculars and bringing their testimonies to life.

One of the most enlightening aspects of the film for me was that it allowed me to critically sit with what newly freed blacks must have felt on June 19, 1865, the day it was announced that slavery had been abolished. Rejoicing surely ensued, yes. But there was also likely the question of "Now what?" What does a person with no education, property, reliable means of transportation, money, social capital, integration, enumerated rights or respect do with a bucket load of "freedom"? Something the government of yesterday failed to strategically plan for was that 300 years of slavery were not erased or forgotten on Juneteenth*. The repercussions and legacies of systematic oppression did not and could not dissipate within a 24-hour period following this decree. It is doubtful that these newly freed great great grandfathers and great great grandmothers of mine had finely prepared blueprints for their new lives and were ready to abandon the plantations and seize the days before them. What is freedom to someone with no actual agency? The promise of "40 Acres and a Mule" turned out to be an empty one and we still reel from centuries of disenfranchisement.

For more works that address the culture produced surrounding slavery, see Herbery Covey's What the Slaves Ate, Joy DeGruy's "Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome" or Ira Berlin's "Remembering Slavery."

**Juneteenth: an American holiday that commemorates the abolition of slavery*

**40 Acres and a Mule: This phrase refers to a largely unfulfilled promise made to black Americans that would allow them access to land ownership and a means to cultivate it in the post-slavery era.*

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Football Shut Down by Amherst

By LAUREN BOYD
Staff Writer

The rivalry between Middlebury and Amherst is historically intense. Not only have both teams ended with impressive records the past few years, but they have also been competitively vying for the top spot in the conference with other top NESCAC teams.

Two years ago, during the 2016 season, Middlebury snapped the Mammoths' 21-game winning streak. Last year, the Panthers came away with a thrilling last-minute victory on the road at Amherst. This year, however, the Mammoths stormed the field in celebration, coming out on top 21–0 against Middlebury. The Panthers fell to a 2–2 record, while Amherst remains undefeated (4–0) on the season.

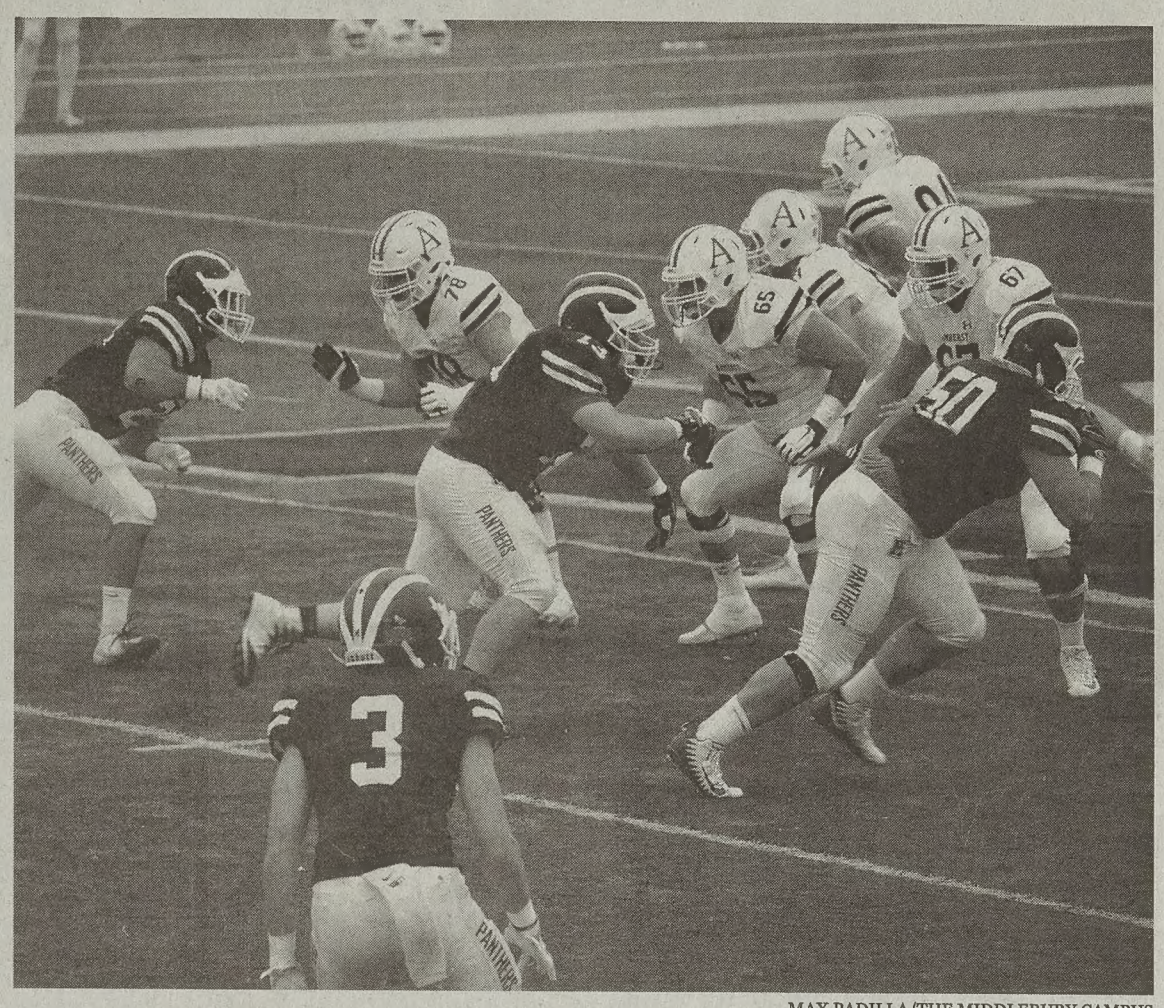
The Middlebury offense could not get enough momentum to push the ball downfield, resulting in an inability to score against the Mammoth defense. Though the two teams differed by only six team passing yards, Amherst topped the Panthers by almost 100 rushing yards. The time of possession being almost equal (Amherst's 29:39 to Middlebury's 30:21), Middlebury's rushing game proved the weakness of the Panther offense.

Amherst scored one touchdown during each of the first three quarters. Though there were few total scores, the game intensity was still high.

Sophomore quarterback Will Jernigan took the place of starting quarterback Jack Meservy '19, who left the game after the first few plays due to injury. Jernigan threw a season high of 133 yards, the most offensive yards on the day for the Panthers.

Peter Scibila '21 ran for a total of 34 yards on 11 carries and had three receptions for 53 yards on the day, totaling most of the Panther offense alongside Jernigan.

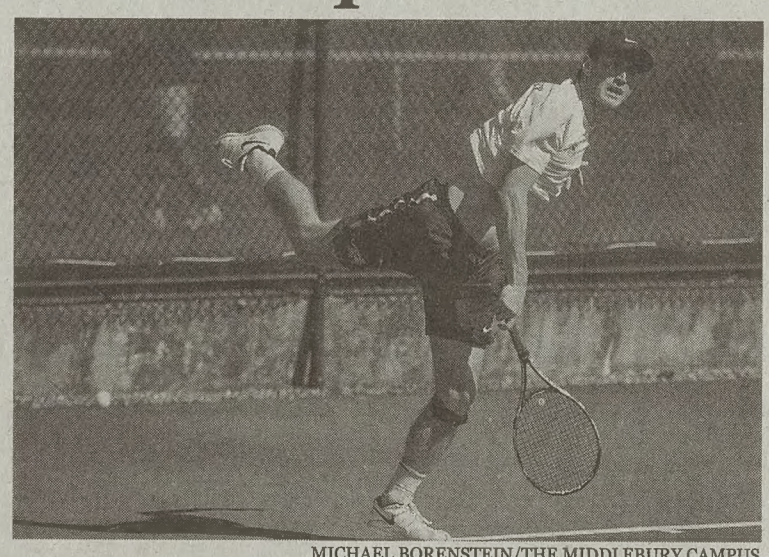
The Middlebury squad will head to Williamstown, Massachusetts, this weekend, where they will take on Williams in another fierce battle between NESCAC competitors. Last year, Williams beat the Panthers on a last-second touchdown, one of two losses for the 2017 Middlebury team. This year, the Panthers will be back with vengeance, hoping to improve upon their performances thus far and regain a winning record.



MAX PADILLA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Middlebury football lost 21–0 to Amherst on Saturday, Oct. 6 during Fall Family Weekend.

Men's Tennis Battles Unfamiliar Competition

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Sports Editor



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Lubomir Cuba '19 returns the ball during the tournament at Middlebury from Sept. 28–30.

After coming short of victory in the prior weekend's ITA Regional Championships, men's tennis readjusted their focus and travelled south to Princeton, N.J. for the Farnsworth Invitational. The Invitational, hosted by Princeton University, was a change of scenery for the Panthers; they were the only Division III team in a field of 15 schools. Unlike in previous tournaments where players would compete in either a singles or doubles bracket, the Farnsworth Invitational followed a Davis Cup format, where each player competes in four doubles and singles matches.

Representing Middlebury on the weekend of Oct. 5–7 were just six players: Noah Farrell '19, Peter Martin '19, Adam Guo '21, Andre Xiao '21, Aleksander Samets '20 and David Vilys '22. NCAA Division III All-American Lubomir Cuba would sit out the invitational, as well as senior captain Cole Sutton. Other notable absences included junior Weston Brach and freshman Stanley Morris. Clearly, the Panthers' full roster of weapons was not displayed at Princeton.

The Panthers still managed to piece together a solid outing. The Farrell-Martin doubles pair posted a 3–1 record over the weekend, while Xiao-Samets and Guo-Vilys both went 2–2. For singles, Farrell, Guo and Vilys each won three matches. Martin won two matches, while Samets would tally a victory in just one. As the only Division III team in the invitational, Middlebury managed to put up quite a fight.

One Panther, Guo, found himself needing to adjust his play style during the match. "Division I players make you pay for any short ball that you give them, so one thing that I was struggling with was keeping the ball deep [while I run]," Guo said. "Additionally, DI players have noticeably bigger serves, so one thing that I could have done better was keeping the ball deeper off the return."

For Samets, competing at the NESCAC level isn't very different from competing against Division I teams. "The level of play is very close, so we go into each match looking to compete hard and to win," said Samets. "The real differences are a few Division-I-specific rules that we have to adjust to, like playing lets and no ad scoring."

The small differences in competition, however, don't take away from the thrill of beating a higher-level opponent. "It's always great to mix in the Princeton tournament during the Fall, so being the only DIII team down there definitely makes the wins sweeter," said Samets.

The Panthers return to Division III play on Oct. 12–14, when they look to build some momentum at the Tufts-Brandeis Invitational.

Women's Golf Takes Bronze at NESCACs

By EMILY BIAN
Senior Writer

The women's golf team took to their home tees last weekend in the 2018 NESCAC Women's Golf Championship/George Phinney Classic. The Panthers were in mid-season form, considering they had competed in four tournaments and invitationals throughout the fall season.

The Panthers ultimately placed third, and rival Williams captured the Women's Golf Championship title. Chloe Levins '20 carded the best tournament score with a pair of 76s for a total of 152. She outcompeted her opponents by four strokes, which allowed her to capture medalist honors.

The Panthers shot a total score of 663 (326–337) over the weekend, putting them in third place out of the 11 competing teams. The Panthers were 20 shots behind the winning team, Williams (643), and 13 behind Amherst (650).

Williams, by the end of the first round, led at the par-71 Ralph Myhre Course with a score of 320. Amherst, meanwhile, trailed by one stroke at 321. Middlebury followed in a close third, carding a Saturday score of 326. Cordelia Chan of Williams led competitors with a score of 74; next was Hamilton's Celia Lau, teeing a 75. Levins was Middlebury's top scorer with her score of 76.

In the second round, Williams increased its one-point lead to seven points. Middlebury carded a day-two score of 337, which was 11 strokes worse than Saturday. While it wasn't quite what the Panthers had hoped for, their consistency kept them in third place.

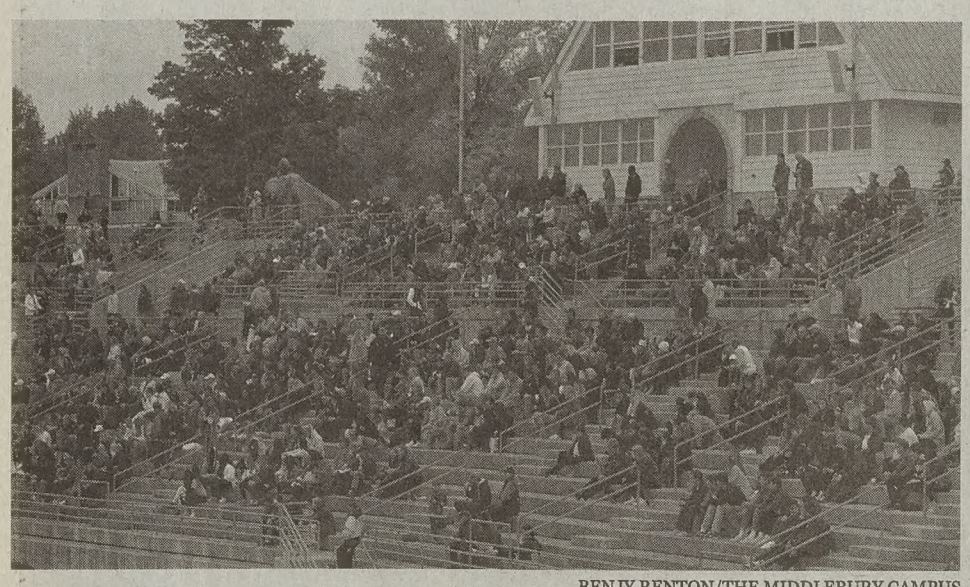
In addition to Levins' top performance, Blake Yaccino '20 also had a great showing, shooting a two-day total of 160 (79–81). She tied for third place overall. Helen Dailey '19 was another solid contributor, hitting an 87 and an 88. Following Dailey was Anna Zumwinkle '20, who posted up a two-day total of 176 (84–92). Rounding out the scorers was Maddy Cordeiro '22, with a total score of 192.

While they did not win the NESCAC title, they are optimistic about their spring season and are proud of how they finished strong with a small but mighty team of six.

"Although our team is small, it has great potential," Levins said. "We'll do our best to prepare by putting ourselves in the best position mentally and technically each week. If we're able to do that successfully, the results will come."

Photos of the Week

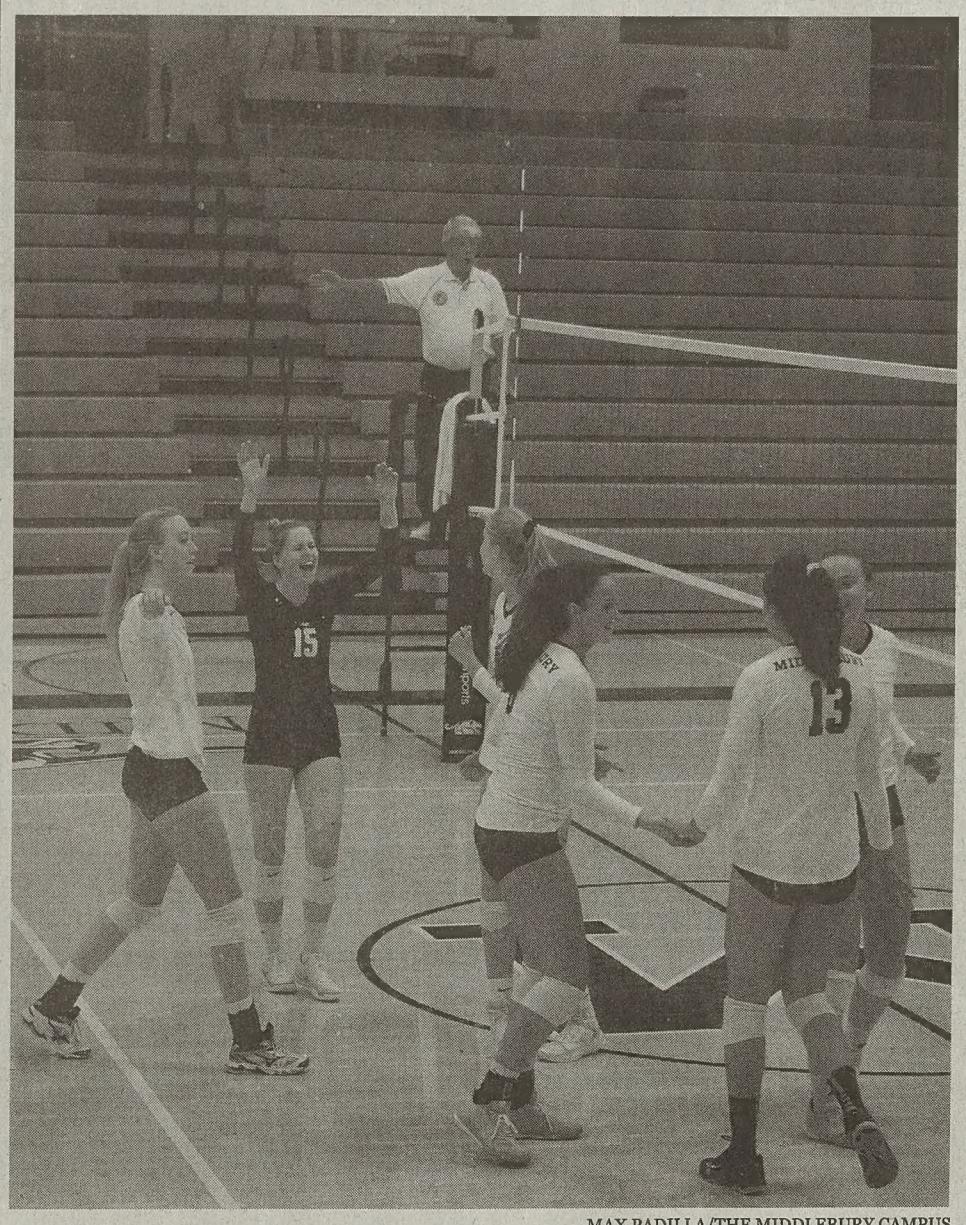
FANS FLOCK TO FALL FAMILY WEEKEND GAMES



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Volleyball Prepares for Fall Break Doubleheader



MAX PADILLA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Gigi Alper '20 celebrates with her teammates after winning a point against Saint Michael's on Tuesday, Sept. 25. The team won against Connecticut College on Friday, Oct. 5 and lost to Wesleyan on Saturday, Oct. 6.

Men's Soccer Remains Tied After Double OT

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

A foul against junior Ben Potter set up senior teammate Daniel O'Grady's early goal.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Drew Goulart '20 battles against a Tufts forward during the Saturday, Oct. 6 game.

By ERIK ARVIDSSON
Staff Writer

The undefeated Tufts team rolled into Middlebury for a conference clash against the Panthers last weekend. The Jumbos were welcomed by a classic Vermont day, grey skies and cold temperatures that made the Panthers feel right at home. A crowd of parents, siblings and alumni made for an exciting atmosphere. From the minute the opening whistle blew, it was clear Middlebury was in for a battle against the team which has won two of the last four national titles.

The Panthers started the match off by putting major pressure on the Tufts defense. No more than 120 seconds had passed when Middlebury struck first. Ben Potter '20 was taken down in the box, and the Panthers were awarded a penalty. Captain Daniel O'Grady '19 stepped up cool and collected to the penalty marker, hitting a confident shot past the keeper into the bottom right corner of the goal.

"Getting the first goal so quickly was important because it gave us the belief that our game plan works and that we had every ability to win the game," O'Grady said.

The Panthers kept up the pressure, but it didn't take long for the Jumbos to equalize. In the 26th minute they found the back of the net on a set piece. Brett Rojas served a free kick into the penalty box, and Sterling Weatherbie managed to head it into the goal. The next 20 minutes saw possession being controlled by both sides. After 45 minutes the teams headed to the locker room all square at 1–1.

The second half started quickly. Both sides had many chances, but neither team managed to find the net. At the end of regulation, Middlebury earned back-to-back corner kicks. This fired up the people in the crowd, many of whom were running back and forth between the men's and women's matches trying to will the Panthers to victory. However, it wasn't enough, and at the end of 90 minutes the score remained tied at 1–1.

In overtime, Middlebury kept up its physical style of play, disrupting Tufts' chances to find the winning goal. Overtime matches can be long and grueling, but O'Grady again noted the importance of that first goal.

"Even after conceding, the fact that we had been able to break them down so early helped us sustain our enthusiasm and energy for the full match," he said.

The match ended with Tufts outshooting the Panthers 16–8 and earning nine corners as opposed to the Panthers' four. As is typical for its physical style, Middlebury was called for 26 fouls, seven more than Tufts.

Despite tying the number-three team in the country, the Panthers were disappointed.

"As a group we were pretty unsatisfied with the result," Potter said. "Tufts is a good team, but we were disappointed to concede a set-piece goal after taking the lead so early on. Overall, it was a solid performance that we hope to build on moving forward. We want to be playing our best soccer at the end of the season, and I think we're on the road to doing that."

This past Monday, Oct. 8, the Panthers traveled to Utica, New York, for a non-conference matchup with Utica College. Middlebury outshot Utica 27–1 and earned 10 corner kicks to Utica's zero. Goals from O'Grady, Brendan Barry '22, Kye Moffatt '19, Jacob LaBranche '22 and two from Aidan Robinson '20 led the Panthers to a whopping 6–0 win.

On the horizon, the Panthers have a home match and an away doubleheader against NESCAC foes Trinity and Wesleyan, on Saturday and Sunday respectively. With the season coming to an end, every match at this point is important to helping the Panthers qualify for the postseason, and Drew Goulart '19 thinks the guys have what it takes.

"I feel confident going into the our last five games of the regular season," Goulart said. "Throughout the season we have become a much stronger team and have begun to find our footing. The important part now is maintaining a fighting mentality and imposing our game onto any opponent we face."

Field Hockey Cuts it Close in Win Over Jumbos

By CAROLINE BARTLETT
Senior Writer

With family and friends cheering it on, the Middlebury field hockey team extended its streak to 10–0 on Saturday, beating the Tufts Jumbos 2–1 in overtime. The Panthers took the lead after just four minutes of play, when junior Marissa Baker scored as part of a penalty corner. Tufts managed to tie it up about 20 minutes later, also on a penalty corner. The game was incredibly tight for the remainder of regulation time, with Middlebury marking just five shots on goal compared to the Jumbos' three.

"We spend a lot of time watching film to understand our opponents' strengths and weaknesses," said defender Olivia Green '20. "For Tufts, we knew that they set their press high, meaning they pressured us when we tried to advance the ball from our defense to our midfield. We responded by playing fast, keeping the ball moving and tiring out their forwards by making them run."

The high-pressure game was the first time Middlebury was forced into overtime, a scenario the Panthers work on a lot in practice. When the final whistle blew, they knew what to do.

"When the clock ran out we got in our huddle and Grace [Jennings] said, 'this is our ish!'," explained goalkeeper Megan Collins '18.5. "We know that OT lends itself to our way of playing — it stretches the field out so that we have more space to keep possession through long passes and gives us an opportunity to play our game."

The Panthers' preparation certainly paid off, as sophomore Erin Nicholas found the back of the cage just 1:15 into overtime, for her sixth goal of the season.

"The interesting thing about this game is it was the first time that we played really well and we still had to fight for that outcome," said senior captain Grace Jennings. "It really challenged things that we thought we had figured out and showed us what else we have to work on moving forward. We realized that there is another level that we have to get in order to accomplish our goals for this season."

Despite the challenge, the Panthers proved once again what they are capable of when they work as a team. Middlebury also bested Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute 4–0 on Tuesday, Oct. 9. Up next, the Panthers will take on Trinity this Saturday, Oct. 13 during Fall Break.

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Marissa Baker '20 rushes down the field to score her second goal of the season on Saturday, Oct. 6 against Tufts.

Women's Soccer Ties with Tufts

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Foward Ellie Greenberg '20 and midfielder Alex Barber '19 chase after the ball during the Saturday, Oct. 6 home matchup. The Panthers finished with a 0–0 tie after double overtime against Tufts.

In the Cards

By NICOLE HONG
Sports Editor

HENRY WILHELM 18
SOCCER
DEFENSE / 2020
FROM SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO
ALTHOUGH A DEFENDER, HENRY WILHELM HAS ALREADY STACKED UP 3 GOALS THIS SEASON. WITH A SHOT PERCENTAGE OF 75%, HIS GOALS ARE FAR FROM LUCKY. WILHELM WAS ALSO THE LONE SCORER AGAINST THE TOP-SEEDED MAMMOTHS EARLIER THIS FALL - PROVING EARLY ON HIS ABILITY TO ATTACK JUST AS WELL AS HE DEFENDS THE FIELD. WITH FIVE CONFERENCE GAMES LEFT, THE ONLY QUESTION THAT REMAINS IS HOW WILL HE CONTINUE TO SHAKE UP THE GAME?

SEASON	GP	GS	G	A	PTS	SH	SH%	SOG	SOG%	YC	RC	PK	GW
2018-19	7	-	3	0	6	4	750	4	1000	0	0	0-0	1